



## Choreographers new and old

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## Comeback for classic clothes

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# NBA warms up for China



Xinhua Photo

A cheerleading squad performed before the NBA China game Wednesday in Guangzhou. The basketball association is stepping up its China plan with 12 new arenas.

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Kunming fields see flood of urbanites

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Suicide a danger in post-quake Sichuan

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Confiscated fruits fed to elephants

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Girl seeks parents to cure her disease



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# Unions push for standardized contracts in Fortune 500

By Venus Lee

The Municipal Trade Union will attempt to standardize collective labor contracts this year. It aims to have 80 percent of private companies sign standard contracts with their employees. By the end of the year, 80 percent of the Fortune 500 enterprises must establish labor unions in Beijing.

"Nearly half of the Fortune 500 enterprises have not established labor unions," Huang Wei, vice minister of the subsistence allowances department of the Municipal Trade Union, said.

According to statistics from the Municipal Trade Union, there are 624 non-per-

son Fortune 500 entities in Beijing, but only 45 percent have labor unions.

"The old labor contracts are neither specific nor clear enough. Look at the guarantee of salary in any collective contract. Some companies just say the salary will not be lower than the minimum wage of the city, but there is no detailed plan for wage or increase adjustment measures," Huang said.

The Municipal Trade Union is organizing a special group to help in its push. It will supervise companies until they sign standard collective labor contracts with their employees.

Responding to the move, the Thai

firm Lotus said it is not a question of whether to establish a labor union, but how. Lotus said it will support its members on all levels to establish labor unions as soon as possible.

The physical distribution headquarters Denmark's Maersk gave a similar response. Maersk said it would promote the law and support employees in establishing a labor union.

"Among companies which have already set up labor unions, more than 20,000 have signed collective labor contracts," Huang Wei said.

"Since the Municipal Trade Union issued its exemplary labor contract at the

end of the last year, the collective contract rate in state-owned and state-controlled companies has reached 91 percent, but the rate in private companies lags at 75 percent," he said.

The All-China Federation of Trade Unions has been working to establish labor unions in Fortune 500 companies since June.

As of now, there are 3,370 labor unions in Fortune 500 companies in China. Among them, Cannon, Sony, ABB have established 115 labor unions in China.

With the increase of multinational corporation investment, 483 of the Fortune 500 enterprises have settled in China with 4,000 subordinate bodies.

## Shenzhou 7 spacesuit lands in Fengtai



Under a convoy of guardians, Chinese astronaut Zhai Zhigang's spacesuit, which costs 1 million yuan and weighs 10 kilograms, was escorted safely to Dahongmen, Fengtai District.

The spacesuit will be on public display as the most important item during the 2008 Beijing Dahongmen International

Clothing Festival from today to October 20. The suit was filled with air after arriving at Dahongmen to give it shape. During the exhibition, it will be guarded by armed police around the clock.

(By Venus Lee)

## Medical reform open to public comment

A new draft reform of the country's health care system was issued by the State Council for public opinions Tuesday.

The new draft is available on the Web site of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) at shs.ndrc.gov.cn/yg. Readers can respond on the Web or send letters to the main office. The reform will be open for criticism through November 14.

Its goal is to establish a universal health care system for both urban and rural people by 2020. The reform has five main points: speeding up the establishment of a universal health care system, setting up a basic drug system, improving the grassroots health ser-

vice network, providing equal public health services to rural and urban residents and pushing reform in state-run hospitals.

Reform in state-run hospitals is considered the most important and urgent problem to be solved.

"The government needs to do more, including increasing the size and number of state-run hospitals. The reform of state-run hospitals, including their management and operation, is essential," Li Ling, vice-director of the China Center for Economic Research in Peking University, said.

Uneven development between urban and rural areas is a major problem to tackle in

reforming the health care system. A system must be established so urban hospitals aid those in the countryside with "clinical services, personnel training, technical support and equipment assistance," the draft said.

For most, soaring medical costs are the highest concern in any health care reform. Many people say they cannot afford the rising medical costs.

However, "reform of the health care system is a gradual process," Du Lexun, editor of the Green Paper on Health Care Reform said, "It is a framework document, and it still has a long way to go before its aim is achieved."

(By Zhang Dongya)

## Family planners break down one-child generation

Since China introduced its one-child policy in the mid-1970s, the generation of children that followed was never far from the spotlight. Recently, a research report showed that two-thirds of the one-child generation said they met or exceeded their parents' expectations, and their unique views on love, marriage and education have had a huge impact on society.

The report, which was carried out by the Social Development Research Office of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the State Population and Family Planning Commission, categorized children born between 1976 and 1986 as the first one-child generation.

In the report, researchers broke up the word "only" to illustrate the characteristics of

these children.

O stands for open. Born during the Open-Door Policy, this generation grew up with social reform. Compared to those who were born before them, openness and compatibility are well reflected in this generation.

N means normal. Referred to by the media as "little emperors" when they were young, because they were considered spoiled and arrogant, the one-child generation has proved itself to be just as normal as those who grew up with brothers and sisters. The only thing different is how society has transformed.

L represents lost. Although now they are no different from others, the one-child generation has changed the structure and basic

social network of traditional Chinese families. They lost something which was supposed to be their own. With no siblings and parents who overindulge them, loneliness is mentioned repeatedly by this generation.

Y signifies yield. To alleviate the social and environmental problems, Chinese families accepted the one-child policy and sacrificed to support the fast-growing economy. Now that the generation has reached adulthood, it is time to harvest the fruit of reforms.

The report indicated that due education and job pressure, late marriage is common. As many as 96.8 percent said they would like to have kids, and they expect to do so around ages 25 to 26.

(By Milo Lee)

### Brief news

#### Milk still has 5,800 infants in hospital

China's Ministry of Health announced Wednesday that 5,824 infants are still being treated for kidney disease caused by tainted powdered milk. Six infants remain in critical condition.

No child died from the toxic milk last month, and all cases of death reported so far occurred between May and August, the statement said.

A total of 43,603 children have recovered and left the hospital since the powder produced by Sanlu Group was found to contain the banned chemical melamine in mid-September, the statement said.

#### Tianjin target for new Beijing airport

Beijing's planned second airport could be built in neighboring Tianjin or Hebei Province.

The proposal was handed to the National Development and Reform Commission for approval.

The site of the airport is expected to be made public by the end of the year. After completion, the new airport will handle domestic flights while Beijing Capital International Airport will focus on international flights, the report said.

#### 66 mln migrants join unions

As many as 66.74 million migrant workers have become trade union members, the All-China Federation of Trade Unions announced Tuesday.

The federation estimated there are 210 million migrant workers from the country's rural population of 900 million.

The figures suggest China has the highest number of trade union members in the world. As membership rises, so does the protection of legitimate rights for members, the federation said.

#### Youths on the Web

A survey found 85.6 percent of Chinese children aged nine to 16 are Internet users.

The results, released by the China Youth Social Service Center, found that 90 percent of minors living in cities had used the Internet. The proportion in rural areas was 70 percent.

The survey was conducted amid reports that more and more Chinese minors are Internet addicts. More than half reported that they chat online and 71.9 percent said they use the Internet to acquire news.

(By Han Manman)



# City dwellers head for the fields of Kunming

By Jackie Zhang

In Kunming, Yunnan Province, many urban residents have rushed to the outskirts to rent fields. Farmers whose lands have been confiscated for commercial constructions are finding new work as farming consultants. For 1,700 yuan per year, urban residents can rent a 60-square-meter plot.

The "Baijia Caiyuan" project, also called Farmland for All, was organized by the local Wild-Duck Lake Tourism Company. "The purpose of our project is to provide work opportunities to displaced farmers," Ning Jie, the project manager, said. The company spent two years preparing to make land available for rent last Saturday.

The land citizens rented in the project was rented from local farmers in Shuanglongxiang Village in suburban Kunming. "We pay them high rent for an extended period and offer them work as farming consultants. Many farmers are old and have been farming all their lives. Once they lose their lands, they feel uncomfortable and bored," Ning said. "Most of them are happy to be consultants. So far, we have 18 farmers working as consultants. Besides the money from land rental, they also get an 800 yuan salary every month."

As many as 23,310 square meters of land are up for rent in this project. During the first period, half the lands are available for rent.



Urbanites farm the fields.  
Photo provided by Wild-Duck

Although the project started last weekend, all the land has been rented, Ning said. "We received orders from citizens for the remaining plots."

Seeds, tools and fertilizers are all provided by the company for free. Renters can visit their lands when they have time, but farming

consultants will take care of them the rest of the time.

"I rent land here to plant vegetables," Li Ling, one of the renters, said. "Many foods are no longer safe to eat. If I rent a piece of land and plant vegetables myself, I can eat clean and safe vegetables."

There are also retired workers who rent land for leisure. Some parents rent lands so their children to experience a different life.

Farming consultants are excited about the opportunity. Zhang Shun, an old experienced farmer, said: "My job is to teach urbanites how to farm. They don't know how to plant corns and vegetables and ask me for help. The job makes me happy and satisfied."

## Segway rider found partly at fault in accident

By Gan Tian

Chaoyang People's Court decided Zhang Yuan (pseudonym), a Segway rider, should pay 30 percent of the medical bills and other expenses she incurred in a traffic accident last week. Her case was the first Segway accident case in Beijing.

Zhang was riding a Segway vehicle across Dongdaqiao, Chaoyang District, on the afternoon of September 6, 2006. Liu Mei (pseudonym) was driving Luo Meng's vehicle from the opposite direction when she struck Zhang, knocking her off the vehicle.

She was sent to the hospital where doctors found severe damage to her neck and soft tissue. The traffic administration was not willing to give specific details about the damage suffered by both parties.

Zhang filed legal action against both Liu and Luo. In its decision last Thursday, the Chaoyang People's Court said the insurance company should pay a compensation of 17,400 yuan, and Luo should pay 2,000 yuan in damages.

However, the court required Zhang to cover the remaining 30 percent of her medical expenses on her own. The court found her partly at fault because Segway vehicles are not approved by the traffic administration of Beijing as a mode of transportation.

Luo said the Segway could reach a speed of 20 kilometers per hour, which classifies it as an immature vehicle. "It should not be allowed on road," Luo said in court.

The Segway is a two-wheeled electric scooter designed as a pedestrian enhancement device to reduce travel time in urban settings. Its parallel wheel configuration makes it compact enough to be maneuvered through most pedestrian spaces that accommodate wheelchairs. When traveling at or below walking speed, its maneuverability is similar to that of a wheelchair. At its maximum operating speed, its maneuverability is closer to that of a bicycle.

"Though the Segway has an engine, it is not a motor vehicle. The case should be resolved according to regulations for accidents between motor and non-motor vehicles," Liu Yan, a staff member from Chaoyang People's Court, said.

Segway vehicles are more clearly regulated in other parts of the world. Although traffic law typically prohibits or severely restricts the operation of most types of vehicles in the US, the legislation that has been designed for Segway vehicles mandates their operation only on sidewalks and prohibits roadway use, which is opposite the regulations applied to bicycles in urban areas.

## 78 characters stand at the China Millennium Monument



Liu Yonggang, a Chinese artist who lives in Germany is showcasing his sculpture in the China Millennium Monument from Wednesday to mid-November. It is the largest single sculpture work done by one artist in China.

CFP Photo

## Beggar's story finds a publisher

By Zhang Dongya

A Hubei beggar realized his dream of publishing a book. Xia Haibo, 26, published *A Beggar's Diary*, his first book with Wuhan Publishing House, earlier this month. He signed autographs on the street of Wuhan, Hubei Province, last weekend and sold seven books in an hour.

### Begging for a living

Xia was born to a farmer's family in Tianmen, Hubei Province, in 1982. He entered the local Tianmen Middle School as the top student in his town. However, he was diagnosed rheumatoid arthritis by second grade and had to

drop out. His family went into debt treating his disease.

In July of 2006, Xia decided to beg for a living. "It was very hard at the beginning," he said. Over the past two years, Xia roamed the streets of Hubei, Hunan and Guangdong Provinces, and much of the rest of the country.

To promote his begging, he started an Internet blog about his life and made a name card. "I just wanted more people to know me and pay attention to me so I could get more help," Xia said.

### Literary dream realized

One thing Xia Haibo never gave up was writing. Within two

years, he produced two novels. One of the two, a 150,000-word piece, was published this month in the form of a diary which records his daily experiences in begging. The book also includes a love story based on actual events.

The book was published for free with the help of Wuhan Publishing House and a book trader named Lu Yan in Changchun, Jilin Province.

"Xia had no other choice but to beg. We were not supporting his begging by publishing the book. He has aspirations and he keeps his dreams alive in the hardest times. His tenacity and optimism moved me. His book is positive,

and the language is fluent and rich with local features," Liao Guofang, an editor of Wuhan Publishing House, said.

The initial print run is 5,000 volumes. Printing costs were covered by Lu Yan.

"I think it was natural for me to help him," Lu Yan said.

### Continuing to write

Xia stopped begging earlier this year and is now busy with his new book. He plans to have his next work, *Love in This World*, published soon.

"I love writing, and I will keep doing it. Next I want to write a story based on history," Xia said.



# Suicide sparks concern for mental health in quake zone

By Han Manman

Dong Yufei, a Sichuan agriculture official who was promoted for his outstanding work after the May earthquake, hanged himself on October 3 in a temporary office.

The local government announced on October 10 that his death was due not only to the sadness of losing his son in the earthquake and his work pressure, but also due to mental illness.

Insomnia, depression, anxiety and fear have become the ghosts that plague more and more people in the quake zone.

## Earthquake hero takes his life

Dong Yufei, 40, was promoted to director of agriculture of Beichuan County, one of the areas worst-hit by the earthquake in Sichuan Province.

Dong, who had not taken a day off work since the disaster, lost his only child and several other relatives in the quake that killed nearly 70,000.

Dong left a letter that read, "I feel too much pressure from life and work. I cannot hold on. I just want a good rest."

"He had never been a coward," a former colleague said. "Even when there were continuous aftershocks and numerous landslides that could kill him in a second, he tried his best to rescue people."

Dong's colleagues said he used to enjoy joking with them at work, but everything changed after the quake.

## Survey team's return

"If we had noticed the problems earlier and give some psychological support, this tragedy may not have happened," Wang Jianping, president of The Third Hospital of Jiande City, Zhejiang Province, said when he heard of Dong's death.

On October 4, Wang led the



One of the visiting psychological experts makes the psychological intervention to a local female.

Zhejiang psychological intervention group on a one week return visit to Sichuan's disaster area. The group was appointed by China's Ministry of Health (CMH) as the "CMH psychological intervention expert group" shortly after the May 12 quake. It was the group's first large scale return visit since the earthquake. Dong's death made the team realize suicide is still a risk for many of the quake victims.

Wang said one of their tasks is to weed out people who may be at risk for suicide through a survey and provide them with psychological counseling.

According to the survey, half the people in the earthquake zone are seriously affected by sleep problems, anxiety or jitters. One third of the people sleep but are plagued by nightmares. A fourth of them cannot escape the memory

of the quake and refuse to go outside to work.

The survey found family conflict in the quake area had increased. Some people reported feeling gloomy and despairing about their futures.

## A local, professional team

"Three to six months after a disaster is when psychological crisis can come to a head. Depression can set in after the initial tension eases," Wang Yiqiang, an expert in the group and vice president of Seventh Hospital of Hangzhou, said.

"In the short period after earthquake happened, people's distress was apparent. Now, it has become invisible," Wang said, "They bear distress in the heart but it affects their daily life."

"Organized and well planned psychological help and intervention is urgently needed," Wang said.

"Psychological care is not something easily solved with a visit to the doctor: it needs greater social involvement."

Wang said the group will send a report to CMH based on its one-week return visit and survey. The report suggests building a professional psychological reconstruction team and making a thorough working plan to help people in disaster area.

It also suggests creating a mental health department in every county-level hospital and opening a 24-hour psychological intervention hotline.

"No matter how many psychological experts come to support the disaster area, they will eventually have to leave. The most important thing is to create a professional psychological team and organization. Otherwise, it will not work," Wang said.



Dong Yufei



Dong killed himself in this building.

Photos provided by Xu Yiping

# Italian minister sued for slamming Chinese food

By Huang Daohen

"It does not matter what the outcome might be, the key is to avoid another case of discrimination against Chinese food," said Huang Guoquan, a businessman from Zhejiang Province who sells food in Milan, Italy.

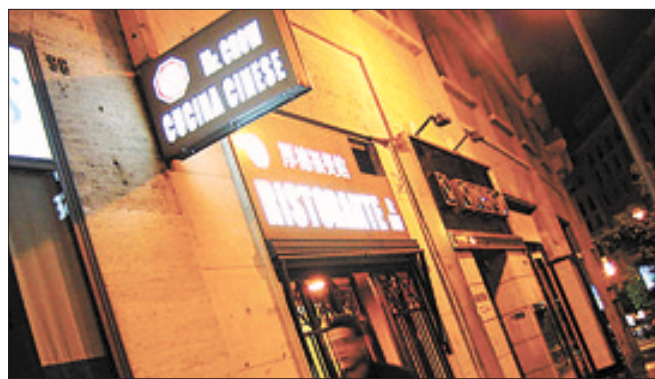
Huang, together with other Chinese in Milan, filed a lawsuit this week against the Italian vice minister of health who called on the Italian people to avoid dining in Chinese restaurants in lieu of the Sanlu powdered milk scandal.

The case marks the first time overseas Chinese have sued a foreign government official to protect their own rights and interests.

## A minister's appeal

"Do not go to eat in any Chinese restaurants," Francesca Martini, Italian vice minister of health, said during an interview on a televised program at the end of September. Her message came during the peak of the powdered milk scandal.

Martini said some Chinese restaurants in Italy may have imported raw materials, such as spices, from China that could be



A Chinese restaurant in Rome

contaminated. She called Chinese restaurants "dangerous."

The minister said she would not eat Chinese food, and suggested consumers do the same — a choice she said would help the local catering industry.

Though Italy does not import dairy products from China, its authorities imposed new checks on imports of Chinese food, requiring certificates stating they are free from milk since the melamine-contaminated milk sickened 54,000 children. Regular

checks are being carried out on Chinese food vendors in Italy.

## Business affected

The minister's remarks were widely quoted by Italian media and publications, and hurt the Chinese food and restaurant business in Italy.

Huang, vice president of the Overseas Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Milan, also runs a food store in the city's Chinatown, where he sells Chinese food.

Huang said the following days were tough as local food safety

authorities investigated most Chinese-operated stores, especially those in the food business. "The frequent visits of government watchdogs affected the store's normal operations, plus the exaggerated claims of the minister put many local Chinese restaurants and food stores in a slump," he said.

"Coming as it did from a senior official of the Ministry of Health, the remark was not responsible," he added.

Huang, together with Chinese business representatives in Milan, held a meeting on October 12 and decided to sue the vice minister. The paperwork will soon be submitted to the Court of Milan.

The meeting also appealed to the local Chinese community to contribute evidence to help win the lawsuit.

"In the past, Chinese restaurants have encountered operation crises, but it was different this time. It was discrimination when [she said] Chinese food was contaminated," Huang said.

Huang said more than 80 percent of the raw materials in Milan Chinese restaurants were

acquired locally, and even rare spices imported from China were examined and certified.

"The outcome of the lawsuit is not important. We want to attract public attention so that people know Chinese food is not only delicious, but healthy and safe," he said.

## Ambassador calls food safe

The Chinese embassy in Italy attached great importance to the issue after media exposure and has stepped into the case.

Chinese ambassador Sun Yuxi said Wednesday at a press conference that the Chinese restaurants in Italy are safe, and the embassy will formally write to the Italian Minister of Health on the issue.

"(Officials) should not arbitrarily make irresponsible remarks before investigation, and we hope the ministry cancels these restrictive and discriminatory measures against Chinese enterprises," Sun said.

As of press time, the Italian Health Ministry gave no comment on the case. Officials at the ministry who answered calls Wednesday said they have not been told of pending legal action.



*New rural growth policies became a focus at last Sunday's third plenary session of the party's 17th Central Committee.*

IC Photo



# Farm reform will force China to grow

## Expert comment

For China, this new policy may be a double-edged sword, some Chinese scholars have warned. On the positive side, it could speed up industrialization and mechanization of agricultural production as small pieces of farmland currently contracted by households could be merged into bigger farms to boost efficiency and productivity.

In this regard, Xu Xianglin, an economics professor with the Central Party School said at a Xinhua online forum that the major goal of the party's new policy was to achieve "sizeable" production in agriculture and facilitate urbanization. "A farmer who sells his farmland will no longer be a farmer," he said.

Therefore, there are potential risks, a sociology researcher with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences said. "Some farmers may be tempted to sell their farmland to get some cash in hand. But then what can they do? They could move to start some small businesses or move to live and work in cities. What about if they fail in running their businesses and cannot find jobs in cities?" the researcher asked.

In his view, to implement the new land reform, China has to make changes in other social systems. For instance, China needs to reform its household registration system, so rural migrants in cities can be accepted as proper urban residents and enjoy the same treatment.

Also, the country must extend its social security and medical insurance networks to cover farmers.

(Agencies)

(Asia Times) – While the rest of the world is fixated on the biggest financial meltdown since the Great Depression, it may seem odd that the highest decision-making body of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has been holed up for four days talking about farmers. There is, however, an important connection.

The collapse of the global financial system has created the need for a reform of China's land-use regime – a hot-button issue since former paramount leader Deng Xiaoping first began pushing the country toward a market economy more than 30 years ago – and now all the more urgent.

With Chinese exports expected to slow dramatically as the world economy contracts, the country's leaders want to boost domestic consumption by spreading China's newfound wealth beyond the cities – where it has created breathtaking modern

architecture and a new class of millionaires – to the still-impoorished countryside, where two-thirds of the population continue to live.

At the same time, increasing farmers' incomes could go a long way toward quelling the rising social unrest often attributable to rural land disputes and the massive wealth gap between rural and urban China.

According to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), the country's total population was 1.32 billion at the end of last year. Of the total, the rural population was 727.5 million, accounting for more than 55 percent. This percentage could be much higher if the nearly 200 million rural migrants working in cities were taken into account. But the consumption of farmers is small compared to their large population.

The current market for consumer goods in Chinese cities is more or less saturated. So, the potential for growth of domestic consumption is in the countryside. The crux of boosting rural consumption is to boost farmers' incomes. Towards this goal, the general aim of new rural reforms set by the just-concluded party plenum is to double farmers' income by 2020 from the current level. Among others, a major policy principle for achieving this goal is to give farmers more freedom in the disposal of their farmland. This is, in fact, meant to allow farmers to capitalize on farmland.

The announcement that the leadership will adopt a new rural growth policy – made last Sunday in Beijing at the conclusion of the third plenary session of the party's 17th Central Committee – is potentially a game-changer.

## End of US era – now China calls the tune

(Sydney Morning Herald) – The world order is changing, because China is propping up the US.

The Group of Seven leaders have vowed to "take all necessary steps" to stop the world's financial immolation. That's good news. But first they are doing whatever is necessary to secure for themselves what is left of their toasted assets.

International insolvency practitioners call it ring fencing – where rich countries, usually the US, can lock down their borders to seize

assets and jump in front of equally entitled but less muscular international creditors. That is why the US will get the lion's share of the leftovers of bankrupt investment banks like Lehmans.

But Iceland and Lehmans are sideshows in the new world of international financial cooperation and brinkmanship. The match-up that matters is between the mother of all debtors, the US Government, and its primary financier, the Chinese Government.

By now China has accumulated more than US \$2 trillion in foreign exchange reserves. To understand both the raw power and vulnerability of China's international balance sheet you only need to look carefully at the demise and partial rescue of the US government agencies Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae.

For 60 years the US has shaped the global financial system and occasionally made threats to get what it wants. In August, a new era began.

Now China stands between the US and national bankruptcy. Like a creditor that has invested its entire savings in a single stricken business, China cannot extricate itself without seriously harming itself.

Its challenge is to extract the advantages it can while keeping the US national enterprise alive.

The prospect of losing US \$400 billion, perhaps even as much as US \$600 billion in Freddie and Fannie was a severe shock to the Chinese political and financial system.

A former senior adviser to the Chinese central bank puts it this way: "If these two companies went bankrupt, then all mortgage bonds will go down. So we will lose US \$400 billion in one go."

The risk is that governments can miscalculate, they can misread each other and they can be pushed off course by domestic politics, even in China.

The overriding comfort for the world is that it makes no sense for China to abandon its US government investments.

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# Impact from global turmoil limited

By Huang Daohen

The global credit crisis has had a limited and controllable impact on the domestic financial market, and the government is confident it can maintain economic stability amid world financial turmoil, Premier Wen Jiabao said Tuesday.

The premier made the comments during a telephone conversation with British Prime Minister Gordon Brown. "The impact of this crisis on China is limited and can be controlled," Wen said, according to a summary of the conversation published on the Web site of the Chinese Foreign Ministry.

The fact that China's banks have only limited involvement in global markets has insulated it from the current crisis, he said.

Wen said the biggest contribution the country can make is to keep the world's fourth-largest economy growing, and with commodity and oil prices falling, which has lessened the threat of inflation, growth is the focus for policy makers.

China can play a positive role in cooperating with other countries to resolve the crisis, he said.

Vice Premier Wang Qishan will head a committee being set up to deal with the effects

of the global financial situation, the *Beijing Youth Daily* reported Wednesday, citing official sources.

Wang has said several times this year that China has the confidence and tools needed to maintain steady economic growth.

The new committee will monitor financial developments overseas and adjust economic policies when necessary, the newspaper reported.

The government cut interest rates for the second time in a month, and lowered banks' required reserves last week as part of a coordinated drive by global

central banks to stop a free-fall in world financial markets.

Referring to the US \$1.9 trillion in foreign exchange reserves, the largest in the world, Merrill Lynch said Tuesday China should help stabilize the global financial system by maintaining its investment in US treasuries and a dollar-based currency portfolio.

"If China stops buying treasuries, the US would stop importing from China and that would hurt China's demand," Erh-Fei Liu, the head of Merrill Lynch in China, told a press conference.

"And that would be a lose-lose situation," he said.



More youths in the financial field will face unemployment in this global crisis.

IC Photo

## External effects

### Overseas Chinese migrate back

By Jin Zhu

According to the latest report from Challenger, Gray & Christman, an employment consultation institution in the US, the rate of staff reductions in US enterprises increased 12 percent compared with the same period last year. The Wall Street financial center has suffered severely from the US subprime lending crisis. Many American Chinese have considered returning to China.

Since the crisis hit this summer, Wall Street has lost 20 percent of its staff. There were about 2,000 Chinese employees in Lehman Brothers, many of whom were caught unprepared when the Lehman Brothers declared bankruptcy on September 16.

Chinese people working and studying in the US have felt the pressures of unemployment, and

returning to China has become a new choice. Domestic financial institutions have also taken a fancy to the good chance for attracting overseas employees, such as China International Trust and Investment Corporation (CITIC) and China Investment Corporation. Working in foreign capital banks and private enterprises are other good choices.

*Wenhui Daily* in Hong Kong has commented that the trend of students returning from abroad may contribute to a financial boom if they are fully employed.

"Generally speaking, people coming back from the US are usually familiar with finances or the stock market. They could bring advanced operation methods to domestic institutions and enterprises. It would encourage financial developments in China as well as globalization in financial circles," Zhang Yi, researcher from

the School of Population and Labor Economy in China Social Science Academy, said.

"For people coming back from abroad, working in a domestic enterprise could also bring great opportunities for self development," Zhang said.

### Clothing industry faces a hard fit

(Bloomberg) - China's clothing and textile industry, the world's biggest garment and shoe supplier, faces a worsening operating environment as the global financial crisis cuts demand and a rising currency erodes profits.

The deepening credit crunch could hurt China's exports, and the subsequent bailouts by Western governments will likely increase the value of China's currency, curbing exporter profits, Sun Huaibin, director of the China Textile Economy Research Center, said Tuesday at a conference, Bloomberg News reported.

"There is a cold winter ahead of us," Sun said, as the export demand slide seems to be "gathering momentum." There is little hope for the industry's prospects to improve this year, and the "bottom" may not appear until at least the first half of 2009, he said.

### "Hot money" inflow slowed

(AP) - Capital flows into China have slowed sharply and even reversed in recent months, according to official data that reflect how the financial crisis has disheartened investors and disrupted banks in this fast-growing nation.

The inflow shift is part of the dramatic turnaround in China's economic situation in the past few months. Earlier this year, the currency was surging against the dollar, helping to draw tens of billions of investor dollars into the country.

## Q3 consumer confidence index falls

The consumer confidence index was 93.8 points in the third quarter, down from 94.1 in the second quarter, the National Bureau of Statistics said.

The sub-index representing consumer satisfaction with current economic performance was 90.3 for the third quarter, unchanged from a quarter earlier, the bureau said in a statement.

Meanwhile, the consumer expectations index, which focuses on the economic outlook, decreased to 96.2 from 96.7 in the second quarter.

## China Eastern-Shanghai Air deal set

A proposed merger between China Eastern Airlines and its smaller rival Shanghai Airlines was approved in principle by the Shanghai government, China Business News reported on Tuesday.

The proposal calls for China Eastern to take a 60 percent stake in Shanghai Air, followed by a cash injection into China Eastern from the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission, the newspaper said, citing an unnamed source. It did not give the size of the proposed cash injection.

Spokesmen for both airlines said the carriers had not been informed by the government of any merger proposals or discussed the issue directly between themselves.

## BYD to begin selling electric car next month

A company best-known for making cellphone batteries says it is on the verge of launching the country's first mass-produced electric car and may also have lined up its first large purchase order.

A prototype of the BYD F3DM hybrid engine car debuted at the 10th Hitech Fair in Shenzhen.

In an interview, BYD Chairman Wang Chuanfu said the car, known as the F3DM, will be on sale in China by the end of November, pending government approval.

Industry analysts say the new car - a key reason why investor Warren Buffett recently decided to invest US \$230 million for a 10 percent stake in Wang's company - is similar in design to General Motors' (GM) Chevy Volt, but is due to hit the market two years earlier than either the Volt or Toyota's new breed of hybrid. Both GM and Toyota say they are taking more time to make sure the lithium-ion batteries they are using for their electric cars are safe.

BYD has no concrete plans for launching products in the US and European markets, but its officials said a hybrid-electric version of the company's F6 gasoline-powered sedan could hit the US market as early as 2010.

(Agencies)

## NBA plans to build 12 arenas in China

By Huang Daohen

The National Basketball Association (NBA) said Tuesday it has formed a joint venture with sports and entertainment group AEG to develop 12 multi-purpose arenas in major Chinese cities, the first of which will be in Shanghai.

The expansion project was announced last Sunday in London.

NBA Commissioner David Stern did not give details on where the other buildings would be located or when the plan would begin, but said the new joint venture will work with local government bodies and developers to oversee the design.

For the Shanghai complex, the

league will work with AEG and Shanghai Oriental Pearl Group, a local firm, in a joint venture to manage an 18,000-seat arena, which will become a main facility for the 2010 Shanghai World Expo.

"These venues will be state-of-the-art entertainment destinations, and will anchor these communities and bring to them world class sports, cultural events and entertainment," Stern said.

Most of the arenas will be newly built rather than remodeled from existing ones. "In terms of finances, we will be making investment decisions on a building-by-building basis fundamentally based upon our partners involvement," Stern said.

NBA's China game, a preseason match marking the league's further expansion into China, kicked off Wednesday with the Milwaukee Bucks beating the Golden State Warriors 98-94 in Guangzhou, Guangdong Province.

The two teams play again in the Wukesong Basketball Venue on Saturday.

The games marked the third time the NBA has brought a preseason match to China since the Houston Rocket's Chinese center Yao Ming joined the league in 2002.

The NBA is also in talks with the China Basketball Association to help develop a professional league in China.



David Stern

IC Photo



# Is it a charity

## to send confiscated fruits to elephants?



City guards in Fengtai district send confiscated fruit to elephants.

Photo provided by Beijing Youth Daily

By Zheng Lu

Last week, a municipal law-enforcement bureau in Fengtai District sent 500 kilograms of fruit, which it confiscated from unlicensed vendors, to an elephant paddock in the World Park. The bureau could not handle so much fruit itself. Before the fruit went bad, the administrators decided to present the food to the elephants.

The chengguan (city guard) are mainly in charge of the city's cleanliness. Their responsibilities include sanitation and regulating people

who run street businesses without certification.

According to the administration's rules, street vendors who sell fruit without certification must be punished. If the vendors refuse to accept punishment, the goods will be taken away by law-enforcement. The confiscated tools, such as trolleys and tables, are allowed to be auctioned if no one turns up to claim them and accept punishment, and the money will be deposited into the national treasury.

But for fresh foods like fruit, there are no rules.

Such foods would go bad before auction.

People reacted differently to the sending of the fruit to the elephants as a disposal method. Some considered it a good way to deal with confiscated foods, while some food sanitation supervisors questioned whether the imported fruit was safe for the animals.

Still, others pointed out that if the administrators could not deal with so much fresh food, why do they not just take away the fruit from the vendors for free? After

all, the vendors have already suffered the loss of profit from the fruit, they said.

However, an official of the bureau said they must follow the rules and confiscate merchandise from those who have been told they do not have the necessary qualifications to sell on the street.

Vendors usually just leave their tools and goods and run away, so that the administrators have to take all of it back to the bureau. The administrator of the bureau said they will continue to take fruit to the elephants.

### Comment

#### A way out for the vendors

It is sad but obviously normal that this kind of thing happens often. The communal life tends to be controlled and uniform. Things will slowly become less and less like a rural Chinese city and it will be harder for the unemployed to find work and simple solutions to make a living.

— Simon Federick, student

#### A lesson for unlicensed sellers

Just giving unlicensed vendors a warning will not deter them. Clearly confiscation is necessary for repeat offenders. I think it's good that some hungry elephants can get a vitamin-rich snack.

— David Drakeford, free lancer

#### Leave the problem to the elephants

I think the way the administrators dealt with the fruits is ok. Since the confiscated fruits cannot be sold by the administrators themselves, just send the fruits to the zoo and solve the problem in a day. The fruits will not go bad and there will not be any legal trouble.

— Li Yuanxin, events planner

#### Vendors should obey the rules

If the streets are often covered by the vendors and their goods, it will influence people's lives.

— Liu Zhigang, sales manager

### Debate of the week

#### Student salute of passing cars sparks controversy

By Milo Lee

To prevent middle and primary school students in rural areas from being hit by cars, the local education department of Huangping County, Guizhou Province, suggests students stop and salute drivers when they come upon passing cars.

In a survey initiated by Sina.com, 82 percent of respondents objected to the regulation, arguing that it is another governmental abuse of power and a waste of students' energy, and will indoctrinate the students with inferior and unequal feelings. Some even say it is slave education that will lead students to resent the rich.

Many netizens said most of traffic accidents are the result of careless driving, so it is not fair to ask the students to take the responsibility.

The outside world may be furious, but local residents and schools support the measure. A netizen from Huangping said most of the roads are built on bumpy hills and

have many turns, and even if the cars are slow, drivers still cannot completely avoid hitting careless children playing in the roads.

The local education department says that after the unwritten regulation was laid out, traffic accidents involving students decreased. Students' safety consciousness also improved, and parents felt more relieved.

Drivers said they learned from these acts and they slow down their cars and make sure to safely pass the students.

Still, some drivers think that saluting is a little over the top, and that the schools should just ask students to walk on the side of the road.

#### A giant cost, but full of mistakes

By Zhang Dongya

A TV series called *The Legend of Bruce Lee* that premiered last Sunday attracted much attention. However, after just several episodes were broadcast on CCTV1, the audience erupted in complaint.

Though it cost as much as

50 million yuan to produce, too many mistakes were found by audience, who thought it was not worth the money.

In previous episodes, air-conditioners and motorbikes from today's era were seen. The original traditional Chinese characters were used in Hong Kong, but modern simplified forms were found throughout the show.

Besides the obvious mistakes, the hero Bruce Lee was shaped as an irritable and angry man, which was the most unacceptable thing for the audience. A netizen called WuDob said, "It is an insult to his memory. Maybe Bruce Lee cannot be reproduced."

#### Super fan turns to monk for football

By Zhang Dongya

A dedicated football fan called the "iron trumpet" from Wuhan, Hubei Province, was reported to have become a monk at the Shaolin Temple on Monday because he was disappointed in Chinese football.

The Iron Trumpet, whose real name is Mei Nansheng, has

watched the country's football team for more than 30 years. Mei was well-known amid football fans and athletes, with a red headband inscribed with "China V" and a long iron trumpet in hand at games.

However, China's football teams have not performed well, which made him disappointed. What's worse, the Wuhan football team dropped out of the China Football Association Super League (CSL) earlier this month, which caused him a deep despair.

Mei converted to Buddhism at the Shaolin Temple in 2005, but still lived a typical life. This time, after his hometown's football team quit, he said he completely gave up hope for Chinese football, and wants to live a quiet life as a monk.

Most people cannot understand Mei's behavior, though they have the same strong dedication to Chinese football. Some hold that football should be treated simply as a sport, and too much emphasis and importance has been placed on Chinese football, turning it into something more than just a game.



Whether or not the students should salute passing cars triggers controversy.



Obvious mistakes in the episodes disappointed Bruce Lee fans.

Photos provided by Beijing Youth Daily



# Girl with leukemia searches for birth parents



Guo Xinhuan has lived a happy life with her adoptive family in the US.

By Jin Zhu

Guo Xinhuan, a five-year-old girl suffering from acute leukaemia and thalassemia, is looking for her birth parents in China. Xinhuan was adopted by an American couple with the help of Qingcheng Children's Asylum five years ago. According to a recent medical test, she is suffering from leukemia.

In order to find a suitable bone marrow donor, her adoptive parents are trying to find her birth parents in China. Two farmers from Qingyuan, Guangdong Province, appeared Monday and wished to confirm their identities.

The latest test has shown that the husband of the couple has the same blood type as Xinhuan. Their DNA medical tests were done at Guangzhou North Hospital on Wednesday, and the final result will be released next week.

## Xinhuan's happy life

"Xinhuan can speak English very fluently now. However, when she was found on a corner outside the municipal government in Longtang town, she was very poor and was in a ragged box," Liang Yougu, vice dean of Qingcheng Children's Asylum, said.

The Qingcheng Children's Asylum took Xinhuan in about five

years ago. One year later, she was adopted by an American couple named Mark Eiji Miyashita and Monica Lee Miyashita. Both of them have jobs in finance in the US.

The orphanage said Xinhuan has lived a happy life with her adoptive parents, who often send photos back from the US. In 2004, the couple took a special trip with Xinhuan to visit the orphanage and the staff members who had taken care of her.

## Suffering from leukemia

It was found that Xinhuan has acute leukemia and thalassemia during a recent medical exam. "Xinhuan is our treasure. We have all depended on each other these past years. It is hard to imagine living without her," Mark said. The couple disclosed that before trying to connect with her own parents, they had searched for suitable bone marrow donors for Xinhuan among more than 800,000 samples across Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, Korea and south China. The American couple said Xinhuan has comprehensive health insurance, and that they will bear all costs for the donation, including any charges to her birth parents.

## Rescue actions underway

Guangzhou Daily reported that Zhang Dongtao, a 50-year-old man of average height, believed that the girl who suffered from acute leukemia was their abandoned daughter. "We saw the news on TV about a girl suffering from acute leukemia who was searching for her birth parents. Judging from the photos in the news report, my wife and I felt that she looked just like our daughter," Zhang said. "If she is my child, I will face reality and try to rescue her with all my force," Zhang said. "That year, I left her outside the municipal government. About one hour later, she was taken away by a middle-aged woman. I felt very sad at that time."

"All we are thinking about is how to rescue her and fulfill our obligation as her parents. We will not request the American parents to return her," he said.



Xinhuan with her adoptive family. The photo was taken after she suffered from Leukemia.

Photos provided by Liang Yougu

# Tour car malfunctions, Swiss couple stranded in Beijing

By Venus Lee

After being stranded in Beijing for 16 days due to a malfunction of their tour car, the Swiss couple finally continued on their way to Shanghai.

The couple started their journey from Switzerland and traveled through Germany, Poland, Russia and Mongolia over the past three months, and has now entered China. Unfortunately, their car malfunctioned in Beijing. Thomas said that the car was already broken when they pulled into Beijing, and the parts he ordered from Switzerland turned out to be wrong. So the anxious couple then began expecting help from Beijing fans of cars.

Thomas is a manager with a career related to automobiles in Switzerland. He took his wife and drove his car to China to prove his love and commitment to her.



Thomas adjusting the parts of his touring car.

Photo provided by Xu Chunlin

His plan was to spend their honeymoon in the most beautiful country through this self-driving tour.

The promise did eventually come true, but not before the couple hit some trouble along their journey. The bearing on the right rear

tire was damaged, and since that type off-road car is not sold in China, and certain parts were produced manually by Thomas himself, the spare parts for the car are not available in Beijing.

Thomas said he found some-

thing wrong with his car when they passed through Inner Mongolia, and the car died when they arrived in Beijing. Both of them came up with several ways to fix the problem; they even asked for custom-made spare parts from Switzerland to be transported by air to them. But the model numbers of the parts sent from Switzerland did not match the car. The couple was forced to live in a hotel.

Although they have been stuck in Beijing for half a month, they are still excited. Thomas said, "I think the most beautiful natural scenic views were in Russia, but the most interesting cities are here in China."

The car is very multifunctional. "There is a shower and a bed in the car. We live and eat there too. But we have to live in a hotel temporarily until it is fixed up." Thomas

said. "It took 3 years for me to complete this car."

His wife said that after they became stuck in the city, many people tried to persuade them to go home by airplane, but they were not willing to abandon their beloved car. "We must take the car home," Thomas thought that many Chinese fans of cars might have related spare parts and expected help from them.

According to the guard of the parking lot where Thomas has parked his car, as of October 13, with the help of several citizens nearby, the damaged bearing part of the right rear tire has been repaired, and the car can run slowly. Thomas is already on his way to Shanghai, where he will ask the Shanghai VolksWagen Company to help him assemble those custom-made spare parts he ordered from Switzerland.



# ACS and NIV new locations

By Jin Zhu

The Consular Section of the Embassy of the US will move to its new location on Friday. Both the American Citizen Services (ACS) and Nonimmigrant Visa Unit (NIV) will re-open to the public in the US Embassy's new location at 55 Anjialou Lu Road on October 20.

According to the latest notice from the US Embassy, the Consular Section will be closed on October 13, 15 after 12pm, 16 and 17, and 23 and 24. Besides these dates, beginning on 14 October, an online appointment system will open for ACS, and all ACS routine services will be by appointment only.

The current Consular Section of the US Embassy, located on Xiushui, has provided

visa tests and American citizen services for more than a decade. "American citizens can go through the procedures for getting married, giving birth to a child and obtaining passport in ACS," Luo Junping, a visa officer said, "Since registration with the embassy is not a requirement for US citizens, ACS does not have an exact record of the number of American citizens living in China. We can only estimate that the number may be nearing 40,000."

At present, 15 visa officers, 10 Americans and about 30 Chinese are working for NIV. All of the visa officers can speak Chinese fluently. During the visa test, they can speak either English or Chinese according to each applicant's preference. "The current visa interview area is quite narrow and has

only 13 service windows," Luo said, "The NIV in the new Consular Section has been built to be more spacious and there will be 17 service windows."

The consular entrance is located at the Tianze Lu Intersection of An Jia Lou Lu, close to Nuren Jie and Laitai Flower Market, opposite the Kempinski Hotel and the Lufthansa Shopping Center. The nearest subway location is the Liangmaqiao stop on line 10. The service hall for visa applicants will also move to the new location and continue to provide services.

For more information regarding consular services and operating hours, please visit the ACS and Visas pages at the U.S. Embassy web site at [beijing.usembassy-china.org.cn/service.html](http://beijing.usembassy-china.org.cn/service.html).

## UK opens new visa system for Chinese students

By Jackie Zhang

Education has always been an important industry to the UK's economy. In order to continue increasing the number of Chinese students studying in the UK, next year the visa application process for Chinese students planning to study in the UK will feature a new Points Based System.

The Points Based System (PBS) is a new system for managing migration for those wishing to enter the UK for work or study. The system was launched in the UK at the end of February, and from the end of June applicants both in the UK and overseas began submitting applications through the system. It is open to investors, entrepreneurs and students who have recently graduated from UK universities and work in the UK.

Starting next year, students who want to go to UK to study can apply for a visa through this system as well. According to statistics from the British Council, there has been a strong surge in Chinese student visa applications to the UK this year. Applications from Chinese students wishing to study in the UK have increased 30 percent this year from 2007, the largest increase and the highest number of new student visa applications in recent years.

Recently, the UK has adopted a number of measures to make applying for a UK visa more convenient for students as well, such as increasing visa application centers around China and making online applications available. The PBS will provide Chinese students with a more convenient and simple way for visa application. Students will be awarded points according to their economic conditions, English language level and university enrollment. Students can check their points online and estimate whether they can get visa successfully before handing in the application.

"The system will be less complicated, more objective and more transparent," Jazreel Goh, director of Education Marketing of British Council China, said. "The system's goal is to make sure that students can get visas successfully by collecting enough points."

## German minister creates campaign to draw more Chinese tourists

By Li Jing

While Germany is now visited by more and more Chinese tourists, the country is not as hot a destination as its European neighbors. Part of the problem is the lack of travel routes focused only on Germany. "This is partly because Germany is generally considered a traditional industrial country with less famous tourism resources. And there are also fewer shopping places compared to France," said Bai Xue, the vice manager of the European Traveling Department in Five-Continental Travel.

Wulff, the prime minister of Lower Saxony, recently came to Beijing to create a campaign to encourage more Chinese tourists to visit his country, especially during the upcoming Christmas traveling season.

"In 2008, the Chinese media has focused on Germany often. I hope Germany can also become popular in Chinese tourism circles," said Wulff.

He said he hopes to better understand Chinese tourists' needs through this visit and facilitate the growth of Chinese tourism in Germany.

Lower Saxony is Germany's second-largest state. It is the home to Europe's largest automaker, Volkswagen AG, and hosted the Expo 2000 World Exposition. It is also a historic and cultural state.



Wulff introduces German tourism resources to Chinese tourists.

Photo provided by German Tourist Board



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# Holland artist guides students' sustainable design workshop

By Annie Wei

As the world begins to care more about environmental and recycling issues, sustainable design has become the new trend.

A sustainable design workshop, set up by Dutch designer Kaspar Konig and Chinese designer Zheng Taokai, a teacher and project director for students of Central Academy of Fine Arts (CAFA), presents 80 pieces of redesigned waste to the public.

The exhibition started early in the City School of Design in Shunyi and moved to Shin Kong Plaza, where it will remain until next Thursday. This is the second year Konig, a European artist who turns waste into musical instruments, held the workshop.

"Aside from being an experienced designer who specializes in recycling design, Konig also has a passion for teaching," Zheng said.

Zheng said Holland and Europe have many good designers who pay attention to recycled design. Such education to improve students' design ability with waste is rare in China.

"I think that since Duchamp introduced the ready-made concept in 1913, people have been aware for a long time of the many transformations that objects and materials can have," Konig said.

Today, one can find many approaches to redesign using ready-made things, which is basically recycling. "One can see the economic advantages as well as the rising global awareness for the climate and environment as a



Kaspar Konig and students from CAFA

Photos provided by Kaspar Konig



A construction uniform is turned into a bag.



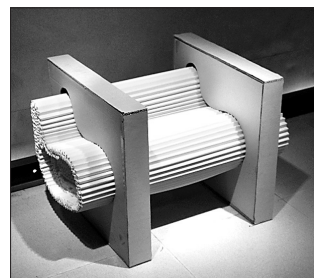
A school bag well-made from waste

reason for the popularity of recycling," Konig said.

He said that in Europe there are already big brands working with only recycling concepts, such as Freitag bags (Freitag.ch). Many people buy these products because they have an individual

style and are sometimes cheaper. The more an old material can transform into something new, it will attract customers, and that is exactly the hope of the designer and the goal of recycled design, he said.

Both teachers are happy



Cupboard paper sofa

with their students' work. Although they are still learning, some of their works are already worth a look.

All of the students' design material has come from a waste dump close to the school. Chairs made of cupboards and lamp covers are widely used designs by design school students all over the world, and construction workers' jackets can be turned into an environmental bag for shopping after work. Some of the creations are not just practical, but very artsy.

"I think design students in general find it a challenge to play with design. And by play I mean find joy in the transformation and use of material objects, like flexibility and transparency, or invent new sports or games to enjoy in their bright futures," Konig said.

Last year, the workshop was open to the public in 798 and some visitors even asked to buy the students' work. Konig said that recycling design will be a popular idea in China in the future due to rapid changes and the production of so many things.

## Event

### Chorus performance

The International Festival Chorus will present three programs, including Rhapsody in Blue, Hiawatha's Wedding Feast and Cloudburst, conducted by Nicholas Smith.

Where: The Forbidden City Concert Hall, West side of Tian'anmen, inside Zhongshan Park, Xicheng

When: October 25, 7:30 pm

Admission: 50, 80, 120, 160, 220, 320 and 580 yuan

Tel: 6559 8285

### Creative Writing Workshop with Linda Jaivin

Best-selling Australian author Linda Jaivin will offer a full one-day creative writing course.

Where: The Bookworm, Building 4, Nan Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang

When: October 24 and 25, 10 am - 5 pm

Cost: 380 yuan, which includes morning coffee and lunch

Tel: 6586 9507

### Workshop: Make the most of your career in Beijing

Jasmine Keel and Sarah Cooper will lead a workshop to provide you with the tools you need to successfully search for jobs in Beijing, including opportunities to become an entrepreneur, and build a portfolio full of local connections.

Where: Landmark Business Center, 8, Dongsanhuan Nan Lu, Chaoyang

When: October 23, 9 am - 3:30 pm

Cost: 2,500 yuan includes lunch and handbook

Tel: 6590 6663

(By He Jianwei)

## Kids camp offered great fun during the October holiday



Over the October holiday week, students from Beijing Playhouse, a kids theatre camp, performed Peter Pan. Twenty-two students had a fun time acting, singing, dancing and painting.

Photo provided by Beijing Playhouse

## US foundation sets up China's first family care orphan school

By Han Manman

Beijing Angel School, China's first elite family care orphan school opened Monday in Fangshan District. Invested in by US Living Hope International Foundation (LHIF) and American investor John Bechtel, the school welcomed its first group of Chinese orphans, including two from the Sichuan earthquake area.

Samuel Fang, the president of LHIF in China, said the school is seeking national and international volunteers.

"We hope to create a family atmosphere for these children," Fang said. The school has built nine apartments so far. "In every apartment, there will be volunteer parents and six to nine children. They will live together. The children will all call the parents 'Dad' and 'Mom,'" Fang said.

The parents need to be highly educated and willing to be long term volunteers, Fang said.

What makes the school unique is its educational style. "We hope to develop the children's potentials and talents from a very young age," Fang said, adding that these orphans should be given the same opportunity as other children.

Fang said the school will try

hard to train the children to be competitive with the children of upper class families. "Domestic and international celebrities from business, politics, science and the sporting industry will be invited regularly to give lessons," Fang said, adding that the move aims to help the students create goals for themselves from a young age.

He said besides the nine year compulsory education, the school also focuses on culture training, including dance, musical instruments and handicrafts. "We hope they can learn life skills as well for their futures."

With the help of authorities, Angel School is planning to take in 100 orphans.

The foundation is also planning to build a recovery center for disabled children. The center is expected to welcome 40 disabled children. Teachers from abroad will be recruited to train the students in special job skills.

Living Hope International is a non-profit organization that operates children's homes and training centers in China.

For more information, call 6135 1267. The school welcomes donations like computers, electric apparatuses and furniture.



# Marathon this weekend welcomes audience



Athletes run at Qianmen area.

CFP Photo

By Zheng Lu

The 28th Beijing International Marathon (BIM) will start this Sunday at Tian'anmen Square. More than 30,000 people have registered for the competition, including 1,000 foreigners from 40 countries.

"To relieve the pressure on transportation and traffic, we decided to limit the scale of the competition and the number of the competitors," said Wang Dawei, vice president of the Chinese Athletic Association. "Yet surprisingly, people showed great passion, and even when the number reached its limit, many people still asked to participate."

Wang said the theme of the BIM this year will be focused on the beauty of the city, while

encouraging sports to all. "We hope the Olympic spirit will be kept alive," he said. Great importance will be attached to the relationship between human and nature, and city and environment, through the race. "We should pay attention to the balance of these, as well as our development in sports."

To attract more professionals to compete in the event, payment equivalent to an individual's wage for those hours will be offered. It is the first time that these bonuses are equal for both the male and female competitors. The champion will win US \$20,000, and the total amount for all events adds up to US \$150,000.

The route has been adjusted

to follow flatter roads and avoid steep areas such as Hangtianqiao Bridge, which was a part of last year's route. "The adjustment aims to help the athletes achieve better results," Wang said.

A 400-meter-long kids' run is arranged near the finish line, the Olympics Sports Center, southeast of the Bird's Nest. Children are invited from migrant schools in Beijing and earthquake-stricken area, like Lin Hao, a boy who save his classmates during the quake. Two yuan from each athlete's entry fee, along with money collected from the auction of sporting goods with stars' signatures, will be donated to schools in the quake-hit areas for sports equipment.

Another highlight during the

tournament will be a costume run. Two hundred people will dress up as film and video characters to lighten the mood.

Because accidents have happened at past BIMs – some competitors fainted and even died – an expert in nutrition warned that people who have cardiovascular problems should not participate in the Marathon.

He also mentioned a misunderstanding for good results in the race. "Some people mistakenly think it is good to run with an empty stomach, which actually is very harmful and can cause a drop on low blood pressure, which may lead them to faint." He suggested that athletes should eat a light, small meal high in energy before they start the run.

## Tickets to Water Cube and Bird's Nest available for visitors

By Milo Lee

Beginning this week, the Water Cube, the Bird's Nest and the Olympic Green are now open to visitors.

Prior to the new policy, only tourist groups could book tickets through travel agencies to access the Bird's Nest and the Water Cube. Now everyday from 9 am to 5:30 pm, individual visitors can purchase tickets at the temporary ticket windows between Entrance D and E of the Bird's Nest.

The ticket price is 50 yuan per person, and children under 1.2 meters may enter free of charge.

Tickets are only valid the same day and because the policy to sell tickets to individual visitors is still temporary, tourists should first call 5870 1010 to confirm that tickets are available before setting out. Group tickets are available for purchase, but need to be booked in advance via telephone.

Due to reception capacity and safety concerns, individual visitors who want to go inside the Water Cube need to buy tickets from 9 am to 6 pm near the Beijing Workers' Gymnasium.

Each person can buy up to 10 tickets. Four ticket information

hotlines are in service to help tourists: 6551 6576, 6551 6577, 6551 6590 and 6551 6593. The ticket price is 30 yuan per person, and can be bought for the same day or one day in advance.

It is important that tourists avoid ticket scalpers and illegal intermediary agencies. Scalpers will charge more than the official vendor, and the tickets might be forged. Illegal intermediary agencies attempt to profiteer by persuading independent tourists to form a temporary travel group to buy tickets, and then steal the groups' money.

To get into the Olympic Green, both group and individual visitors are recommended to take buses or subways, because parking lots for private cars are unavailable around the Olympic Green. Subway Line 8 has reopened and will take tourists directly into the central area of the Olympic Green.

Some of the props used in the opening and closing ceremonies of the Olympics will continue to be displayed to tourists, and souvenir shops and convenience stores inside the Olympic Green will remain open for businesses.

## Online sellers benefit from lift of liquid mailing ban

By Milo Lee

For online shoppers who enjoy delivery service and cheap prices, here comes good news. The liquid ban that prohibited the mailing of any liquid parcels from June 1 to October 31 has been removed early, which means the four-month dry spell has come to an end.

In an effort to tighten security ahead of and during the Beijing Olympics, the State Post Bureau implemented an order to

prohibit mailing any parcels containing liquid products, chemical goods, powder products, mechanical and electrical articles and sealed containers with unidentified gas or liquid.

Many online stores that sell the previously mentioned commodities took a great hit due to the ban.

Pinxiang2008, a perfume retailer from Taobao.com, said her sale records dropped to half of what it used to be, but have

rebounded back to their normal levels since the ban was lifted. Although business during the Olympics was affected, she has stayed optimistic that enthusiastic purchasing power will return once everything is back on track. Many online stores have begun to promote their products with all sorts of discount policies, hoping for a turnaround of business.

During the National Day Holiday, also known as the Golden

Week, the liquid and mechanical and electrical products mailing ban had already begun to loosen, but parcels needed to be checked at the postal counter before mailing.

A Dongsanji Post Office staff worker said that although the ban was lifted, the checking process is still strict.

When mailing cell phones, the battery and the phone must be separated, and must first be confirmed safe to deliver.

## ASK Beijing Today

Email your questions to: [weiy@ynet.com](mailto:weiy@ynet.com)

### Where can I buy an American football in Beijing?

You can try some local sports stores. But since few people play American football here, many smaller sports stores might not have them. *Beijing Today* recommends trying Taobao.com. Type the Chinese characters for American football in the search box and you can find not only footballs but also many related products, from real American footballs to shoes and T-shirts. The price of an American football from Taobao's vendors ranges from 50 to 100 yuan.

### What are some popular online games and where can I find a non-smoking Internet cafe?

There are a lot of online games in China right now. The most popular ones are *World of War Craft* and *Audition*, according to the staff at two Internet cafes. *World of War Craft* is popular with Chinese players because its fees are the cheapest: about 30 yuan for 4,000 minutes.

There is a non-smoking Internet cafe at Chaoyangmen Wai Dajie, close to Bainahui, the computer gear shopping mall. It's called Bodian Internet cafe, and has 300 computers. Ask any vendor around that area and most people know where to direct you.

### I'm about to move away from Beijing and I want to know where to return IC cards, so I can reclaim my deposits.

Although there are many places that sell IC cards, there are only a few places you can return them and get a quick refund. Two of them confirmed by *Beijing Today* are at the Andingmen subway station and one at the Xidan subway station. They do not have very clear signs for returning IC cards, so you will need to ask a worker at the subway station for directions.

### Many local newspapers have reported that the real estate market has dropped very much. I would like to know if the rent has gone down after the Olympic Games. Does your newspaper have some detailed information about this?

Some large agencies have said that rent around the CBD area, especially in expat areas, did not see the positive decrease that every tenant has expected. They said that generally speaking, in the CBD area, the rate has remained stable so far. Some buildings have even increased their rates as the apartments' landlords thought they had the best locations in the world.

(By Wei Ying)



# Between past

## Nederlands Dans Theater I

By He Jianwei

"Yesterday is history, tomorrow a mystery, but today is a gift. That is why they call it 'the present,'" is the life philosophy, as quoted by Master Oogway in Kungfu Panda, of Jiri Kylian, a ballet and modern dance choreographer. Kylian was the artistic director of the Nederlands Dans Theater (NDT) until he resigned in June 1999 to focus on choreography. He brought NDT onto the world stage during his years with the company. The new director Andres Hellstrom succeeded Kylian and said he will "create an atmosphere which is open-minded and interesting for the dancers."

"Left, seven and back." Hellstrom, the current artistic director of NDT, walked his dancers through their warm-ups at the National Center for the Performing Arts (NCPA) on Monday afternoon. The dancers were getting ready for performances on Tuesday and Wednesday, where NDT I performed for its first time on the Chinese mainland.

The company has been a leader since its establishment in 1959. But this time, NDT I brought a triple billing of Wings of Wax, Speak for Yourself and Signing Off to the opera house.

### Unique structure

Although its dancers are classically trained, NDT I leads in modern dance, not ballet. Its contemporary performances pair dance with music, lighting, sets and costumes.

The company consists of two ensembles which represent two generations of dancers: budding talents find a place in NDT II, and move on to NDT I in their prime.

NDT I was the "flagship" ensemble founded in 1959. It consists of 30 dancers aged 23 to 42; all

are excellent soloists.

To groom younger talents for a future in NDT, the company formed NDT II in 1978. The ensemble includes sixteen dancers under age 23. Originally, the group was an internal training class, but it has grown to become a world class ensemble with a reputation for being one of modern dance's most revolutionary groups.

Moving directly from dance school to NDT I is difficult. "It can be very physically damaging. So we have the group between the school system and dance company .... After [a dancer] passes two years in NDT II, he or she can join the major company, NDT I, or to go on to other world famous dance companies," Kylian said.

### Soul of the theater

Kylian, born in Prague in 1947, has worked at NDT for 35 years and become the soul of its theater.

At age nine, he started dance training at the Prague National Theater's ballet school. He moved on to the Prague Conservatory six years later.

In 1967, Kylian attended the Royal Ballet School in London on a scholarship from the British Coun-

cil. "I came into contact with the latest developments in ballet and contemporary dance," he said.

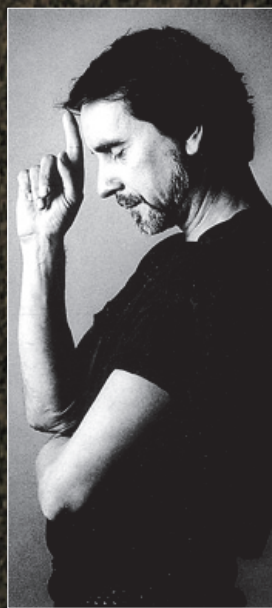
John Cranko, a major director of the Stuttgart Ballet, offered him a dance contract and encouraged his own works.

Following his first choreography in 1973, an artistic relationship with the company began.

He became artistic director in 1980. But the mantle of a heavy load for the theater came "from the board, because they didn't know myself," he said.

"It's not only about art, it's about human beings .... You are not only a choreographer, you have to be a diplomat, a psychologist, a businessman and an artistic director."

In the years between 1980 and 1999, Kylian became an important and most interesting creators



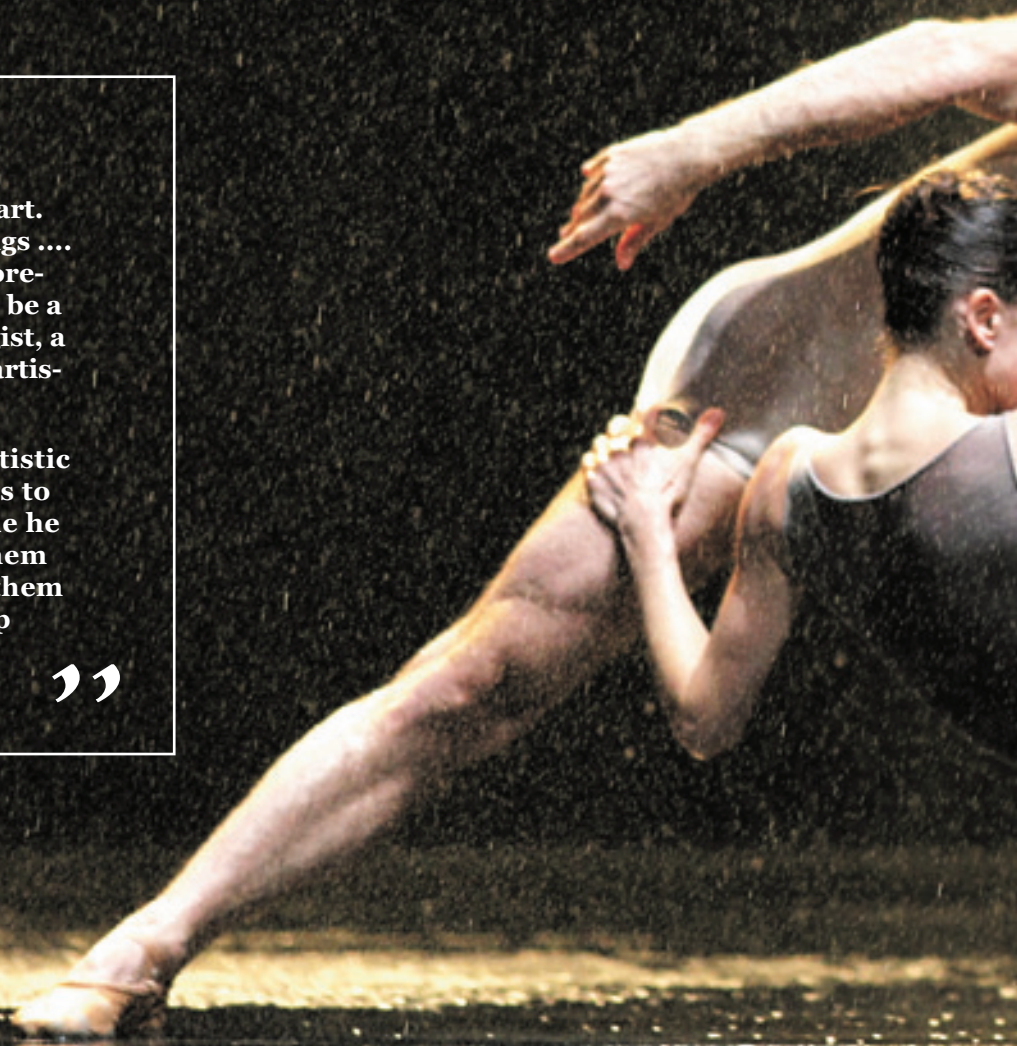
Jiri Kylian

“

It's not only about art. It's about human beings .... You are not only a choreographer: you have to be a diplomat, a psychologist, a businessman and an artistic director.

The secret of an artistic director is that he has to build a team of people he can trust. He gives them autonomy. He gives them the change to develop their talents.

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# past and future

## on the Chinese mainland

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n 1980 and 2000, NDT enue where some of the produced their works. At

that time, the artistic policy of the company had three aims: invitation of the finest young choreographers, inclusion of new creations by contemporary masters, and encouragement of creativity within the company.

Its choreographic workshops have become a breeding ground for many future choreographers and artistic directors.

"The secret of an artistic director is that he has to build a team of people he can trust. He gives them autonomy. He gives them the chance to develop their talents," he said.

Over many years as director, Kylian oversaw the departure of many fine performers: dancers who could no longer take part in the company, but who possessed a powerful personality, stage presence, charisma and who were gifted in communication. He decided to create a small group for dancers stuck between age 40 and death in 1990, though it was later dissolved due to financial troubles.

The role of artistic director passed to the next generation in 1999. Today, Kylian stays on as a

choreographer. Since he began work in 1973, he has created 72 ballets for NDT. The body of his work includes 92 creations.

### Works between old and new choreographers

Tuesday and Wednesday's performances included one Kylian piece and two from the choreographic duo Paul Lightfoot and Sol Leon.

Wings of Wax combined the music of Bach and Philip Glass with bold imagery. A complete tree hung upside down over the action as a white light rotated around it. Eight dancers emerged from the blackness, only to dissolve back into it again.

It was the most athletic of all Kylian's ballets and was a hymn to freedom inspired by the myth of Icarus. Through symbolic representation, he sought the philosophical truth concealed behind everyday movements that we perform automatically, unaware of the principles that govern them.

In Speak for Yourself, choreographed by Paul Lightfoot and Sol Leon in 1999, an intriguing dance unfolded around the elements of water and fire. It slowly lapsed from intense, erratic

and powerful movements into an atmosphere of organic serenity as rain trickled over the dancers. The combination of intense dance and music-the fingerprint of an NDT house choreographer was again present.

In Lightfoot and Leon's Signing Off, three male dancers twisted and thrashed, rolling back their shoulders and uncomfortably thrusting forward the ridges of their ribs, as if trying to expose their lungs and heart. At other times there was a sense of loneliness and isolation-even between couples who were divinely intertwined – and more than one silent scream projected at the audience.

NDT's new artistic director Hellstrom knows well the challenges ahead for himself and his theater. He said he plans to leave more space for the ensemble's dancers and choreographers to create. The company is expecting two new artistic directors from another European dance company next year, he said.

Next year will be the 50th anniversary of NDT, and former director Kylian will create a new work to commemorate the occasion.

*Speak for Yourself slowly lapsed from intense, erratic and powerful movements into an atmosphere of organic serenity as rain trickled over the dancers.*

Photos provided by National Center for the Performing Arts





# Gorgeous George, the innovative legend of wrestling

By Charles Zhu

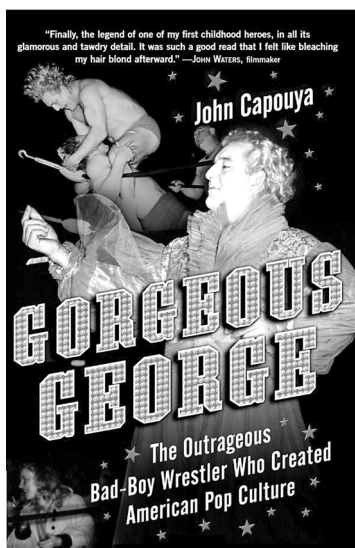
In the wake of the 29th Olympiad and while the nation is still enthusiastic about sports, it is the perfect time to read pop biography *Gorgeous George* (282pp, Harper Entertainment, US \$25.95), by John Capouya. The story is of the legendary gender-bending American wrestler who fascinated millions of people in the 1940s and 1950s in the early days of television, when pro wrestling was broadcast live on US television every night.

Capouya describes in detail how Gorgeous George, with his gender-bending and sublimely ridiculous magic, had an electrifying effect on spectators in arenas all over the country.

George, who called himself "The Human Orchid," was the original showman of professional wrestling, and his flamboyant theatrics forever changed the sport.

He grew his hair out so it was long and could be curled and pinned back with gold-plated bobby pins, and dyed it platinum blond. As soon as he arrived in a town for a new match, he would go to the nearest women's beauty salon to tune up his do.

He wore elegant robes, and was always escorted by one of his male ring valets who would spray his corner of the ring, as well as George's opponents, with disinfectant and perfume. Before the match, the announcer would say, "Ladies and gentlemen, Gorgeous George refuses to enter the arena until everyone is standing, in a show of respect for the Human Orchid."



He was the originator of using entrance music, and was always accompanied by the theme "Pomp and Circumstance." He came into the arena with great fanfare and spent 10 minutes folding and unfolding his satin robe amidst furious booing.

The whole house went crazy with thunderous cheers when his opponents made a mess of his precious hairdo.

Dylan recalled that when he was still a boy in high school in Hibbing, Minnesota, and was performing on a make-shift stage in an armory lobby, Gorgeous George "roared in like the storm" for a match, his blond curls flowing, his eyes flashing with moonshine." When the eyes of the two met, Gorgeous George threw a mis-

chievous wink at the young musician as if to say, "You're making it come alive." Dylan later wrote that the message "was the recognition and encouragement I would need for years to come."

In a very real sense, Gorgeous George, by his single effort, established the unproven new technology of television as a viable, entertaining new medium that could reach millions of homes across the country. Professional wrestling was the air's first real "hit" with the public before movies and soap operas. It was the first program that drew real numbers, and Gorgeous George was responsible.

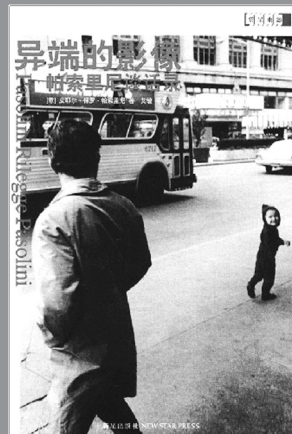
There was once a well known saying that Frank Gotch may have made wrestling an important sport, but Gorgeous George brought it to the world.

George, although a showman first and foremost, eventually became quite an outstanding wrestler. On May 26, 1950, he won the AWA (Boston) World Heavyweight title by defeating Don Eagle. He later lost the title to another wrestling legend, Lou Thesz. He ended his remarkable career nearly 10 years later and retired from wrestling.

In the last few years of his career, he lost his looks and became an alcoholic. More than a few women claimed he fathered their children.

"Gorgeous" George Wagner died of a heart attack in 1963 at the age of 48, just two years after his retirement. Although he was a bad-boy wrestler, the startlingly original performer and champion continues to be honored as an innovative legend.

## Understanding a great Italian filmmaker



By He Jianwei

The film *Salo, or the 120 Days of Sodom* made Pier Paolo Pasolini the most controversial director in film history. His movies, ideas and the way he died left his viewers with many puzzles.

After his death, some said even Pasolini's friends and enemies could not understand his meaning.

*Pasolini Rilegge Pasolini* (191pp, New Star Press, 25 yuan), by Giuseppe Cardillo, is a collection of interviews conducted in the 1960s. They are Pasolini's reflections on his marvelous life and creation in films. The book shows the changes in his thoughts on aesthetics and culture.

The book was translated into Chinese in January, and serves as a great aid for readers eager to discover the Italian director.

Its first part is an interview between Giuseppe Cardillo and Pasolini. When Cardillo worked as a culture councilor in Italian Embassy in the US in 1969, he interviewed Pasolini on the man's second visit to the US.

The three years between 1966 to 1969 were Pasolini's prime. He went from critic to playwright, journalist to columnist and from poet to filmmaker.

During the 1960s, his belief that the working class had become incorporated into consumer capitalism was followed by his controversial – and some would say simplistic – view that middle-class progressivism was dependent on superficial bourgeois decadence.

The second part of the book is an interview conducted by Oswald Stack in 1968. Pasolini created a picaresque neo-realism, showing a sad reality, a hidden, but concrete one, in which many social and political forces had no interest in seeing in artistic work for public distribution. His works, with their unequalled poetry applied to cruel realities, showed that such realities are less distant than what imagined and caused a change in the Italian psyche.

In the interview, Pasolini said "Catholics come out of the film feeling a bit shaken up, feeling that I have made Christ bad. He's not bad, in fact, he's just full of contradictions."

On November 2, 1975, the filmmaker's body was found on a wasteland in Ostia, just outside Rome. He was brutally murdered by a 17-year-old male prostitute.

"Cinema is identical to life, because each of us has a virtual and invisible camera which follows us from when we're born to when we die," he said.

## Bookworm book listing

Jenny Niven from the Bookworm recommends the following new arrivals to *Beijing Today* readers.

### Ideas Man

By Shed Simove, 352pp, Bantam Press, 195 yuan

Author Shed Simove is a modern day creative genius who lives and breathes ideas. Every day of his life, dozens of new ideas spring from his astonishingly active mind. If an idea has not been done before, then Shed is sure to attempt it. *Ideas Man* is the true story of this visionary maverick's amazing adventures. At breakneck speed, Shed describes how dozens of his ideas came to be, how they succeed or sometimes disastrously fail. It's perfect for anyone who has ever had a dream and wondered how to make it come true.

### Managing the Dragon

By Jack Perkowski, 336pp, Crown Business, 220 yuan

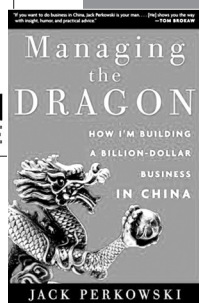
After a highly successful career on Wall Street, in the early 1990s Jack Perkowski needed a new challenge. Having decided that China would be the future, he set about investigating this little-known market and the business opportunities it offered. In *Managing the Dragon*, Jack provides an insider's view of China, its many peculiarities and working practices. He shows how China's economy and government are highly decentralized and how the country tends to operate like a series of villages spread across a vast landscape. It is a revealing and thought-provoking memoir offering a fresh perspective on a country at the dawn of a new age.

### Socialism is Great!

By Lijia Zhang, 320pp, ATLAS & CO, 195 yuan

Lijia Zhang worked as a teenager in a factory producing missiles, queuing every month for the "period police" to give evidence that she was not pregnant. In the oppressive routine of guarded compounds and political meetings, Zhang's disillusionment with "The Glorious Cause" drove her to study English. By narrating the changes in her own life, Zhang chronicles the momentous shift in China's economic policy.

(By Zhang Dongya)





# Domestic duds

## Flash back to old fashion

### The iMart of native goods

An iMart will be held on October 25 and 26 at Soho Shangdu with the theme "when expats meet Chinese products." The market has been organized by a team from Jiong Box shop, where independent designers sell their works.

"Once I went to an iMart in Shanghai and was shocked by its variety and internationalization. There were as many foreign designers as stall holders. Then I thought of bringing some of those creative people to Beijing since it had never happened before in our iMarts," Guo Shuo, one of the organizers and lead vocalist of the local rock band Convenience Store, said.

But that was just the first step. "We had to find something to grab the attention of the foreign designers and the trend toward domestic products came to mind. They are popular with young people and most important, they are totally original Chinese designs," Guo said. Zlobin Dmitry, a Russian painter, will hold his solo exhibition at the market, and one foreign band is on the organizers' invitation list.

The market will simulate the form of the state-owned cooperative stores which could be seen everywhere in China in the 1980s and early 1990s. Products like the Feiyue and Huili shoes, Dabaitu toffee and Seagull cameras will be displayed. While old, but they are essential to many fashionable youth.

### Orlando Bloom's Feiyue shoes

A series of photos of Orlando Bloom are circulating on the Chinese Internet with the British star on the set of "New York, I love you" sporting a pair of Feiyue sport shoes. The picture soon became the topic of sneakers lovers in China and touched off a surge in purchases of the old brand.

Feiyue shoes were first produced in Shanghai in the 1920s and became famous during the 1930s for their robustness, flexibility and comfort-essential requirements for martial arts. The brand was commonly seen across the social strata from countrymen to politicians, from the captain of the national soccer team to Shaolin monks.

Feiyue shoes went out of fashion until Patrice Bastian, a French sneaker maker living in Shanghai, discovered Feiyue's vogue value and negotiated with manufacturer Da Bowen to begin his plan. Along with Nicolas Seguy, Clement Fauth and graphic designer Charles Munka, Bastian organized his idea team. They lifted up its image and optimized the shoe quality to meet the requirements

By Wang Yu

About twenty years ago, when most of the post-80s generation was sitting in primary school or kindergarten, China was going through its first 10 years as an open country. Imported goods were still a luxury for most.

Domestic clothing like Meihua sport suits and Huili shoes were as popular as Nike Air Force One and Adidas Originals are today, and now the fashion sense of some influential people is bringing these classic clothes back onto the streets in the new millennium.



Photo provided by Jiong Box



Osip shoes are inspired by the worker's "Jiefang Xie."



New Pants on stage

of Western markets, while retaining its vintage feel.

In February 2006, the team released its first Feiyue collection and took London and Paris by storm.

Back in China, Feiyue's story turned the spotlight to other classic brands. Huili shoes and Meihua sport suits filled the gap in mod and old school styles. Meihua's manufacturer in Tianjin stopped production years ago, which drove up the market price for its vintage suits.

### Impact from the bands and the future

Do not wear the whole suit – it will only make you look stupid. Mix with different clothes for a more stylish look. In the Modern Sky Festival during the National Day break, old style shoes and sportswear went mixed with jeans in Haidian Park.

Rock bands continue to be the best fashion promoters. Many people said the local band New Pants' outfit impressed them. The band members like tight clothing and began to wear old domestically-made sportswear to their performances last year.

With the E50 price tag of Feiyue shoes in France, the appeal is not only the cost but its unique design.

"A pair of Huili shoes was certainly expensive in the 1960s, and was definitely trendy for young people at that time. But the manufacturer didn't stay current and let the shoes fall into history," Jia Wei, founder of the "classic native products" group on douban.com, said.

People follow trends blindly and things change fast. Converse has been around more than 100 years but never fallen out of fashion. This year may be the chance for old Chinese brands to make their comeback.



# Coloring the techie world

By Gan Tian

The IT realm has always been known for its vibrant colors. *Beijing Today* finds the newest gadgets in town. Check them out, and color your world.



Photo provided by Apple

## Apple nano 4

Apple introduced the new fourth generation iPod nano last month, but Beijing locals have only been able to test this new gadget for a week at the Sanlitun Apple Store. This thinnest iPod ever features a sleek new design with a curved aluminum and glass enclosure, in nine vibrant colors. Color lovers can find silver, purple, blue, green, orange,

yellow, pink, red and black nanos.

The new iPod nano incorporates Apple's "Genius technology," which automatically creates playlists from songs in your library that go great together. The new iPod nano also features a refined user interface, a high resolution portrait display, and a built-in accelerometer which automatically switches to Cover

Flow when rotated and automatically goes into shuffle mode when lightly shaken.

Available: Building 6, The Village at Sanlitun, Court 19, Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang District

Price: 1,298 yuan for 8G, 1,748 yuan for 16G

## Sharp SH906i

From Japan's number-one phone manufacturer, Sharp, the SH906i is the first ClearPad-enabled touch-screen mobile phone in Japan's mobile handset market. Now it's here. The SH906i uses Synaptics' ClearPad technology to enable finger-input character recognition capabilities for Japanese character entry. The combination of the SH906i character recognition software and Synaptics' ClearPad solution improves usability for regions with more complex alphabets. Intelligent smart-text entry allows the user to access and control any number of applications and menus on a handheld device in an efficient and intuitive manner – it is fast, easy to use, and accurate without a stylus.

Available: any IT shopping retail center, Zhongguancun and Bainaohui are the best  
Price: 3,380 yuan



## Olympus Stylus 1040

The Olympus Stylus 1040 features an ultra-slim body that the company says makes it "the thinnest Stylus camera of all time," at 20.3 millimeters thick. The Olympus Stylus 1040 employs a contrast-detection autofocus system which operates off data streaming from the camera's image sensor, and also includes face detection, able to detect up to sixteen faces in a scene simultaneously. The Olympus' Face Detection function is linked to both the auto-exposure and auto-focus systems, ensuring that your subjects' faces are taken into account when using either mode. It also allows for tracking of a subject's face as it moves around the frame, once detected. A "Smile Shot" function can automatically capture three photos when the camera detects that your subject is smiling. Your subject might be more difficult than the camera!

Available: any IT shopping retail center, Zhongguancun and Bainaohui are the best

Price: 1,699 yuan



Photo provided by pconline.com



## ASUS F6V

ASUS has once again set the bar, not only in presenting the most innovative gadgetry, but also in captivating the primeval inclinations of intelligent professionals, with its new F6V laptops that appeal to one's sense of smell.

These laptops are not only top-of-the-line as far as features are concerned; but also smell good. They come in four glossy casings that are aesthetically pleasing, and include four scents to match the color concepts: Floral Blossom (floral), Musky Black (cologne), Morning Dew (grassy) and Aqua Ocean (ocean). Professionals who are tired of the smell of plastic and steel now have a choice. These scents can relax, relieve stress and improve the mood of the user.

The F6V is equipped with an Intel Core2 Duo (T9400/ P8600/ P8400) processor with a speed of 2.4GHz, giving an energy-efficient performance and the ability to run multiple applications at the same time. Preloaded with Windows Vista operating system (ultimate/ business/ home), the F6V means no upgrades are necessary.

Available: any IT shopping retail center, Zhongguancun and Bainaohui are the best

Price: 8,000 yuan

Photos provided by ASUS



# A Taiwanese dining experience in Beijing



## Food can be simple, but never hasty

**Beijing Today (BT):** How long have you been in Beijing? What is your impression of this town?

**Mei:** I have been here for seven years. Beijing feels like a man, very big.

**BT: What is your job here?**

**Mei:** I have done many things. I worked as a make-up artist, a language trainer, an interpreter, a columnist and opened a cafe. Anyway, nothing serious!

**BT: What does food mean to you?**

**Mei:** Dining is the most important thing in my life. I have several principles on dining. First, I must try a dish twice to decide whether I like the restaurant or not. Second, food can be simple, but I will never enjoy it in a hurry.

**BT: How do you feel about Beijing's dining environment?**

**Mei:** I love it. The dining environment here is very diverse. You can enjoy different cuisines from all over the world, both authentic and traditional, and creative and new. Anyone who loves eating will feel lucky to live in this big city.

**BT: Please recommend some dishes from your restaurant Absolute Cate.**

**Mei:** Juicy Xiaolongbao comes first. The Cabbage and Meat Soup Dumplings can be eaten a thousand times and you will still want it again. Also the Osmanthus Cake, which is sweet but not greasy. I have to recommend all of the snacks here, because they are really so delicious.

**BT: You must love Shanghai cuisine.**

**Mei:** Shanghai cuisine has its own special history. It absorbed the best parts of other cuisines, blended them, and presented them with a delicate new flair. It is different from Sichuan's passion, Shandong's seriousness, and Guangdong's grandeur. Shanghai cuisine is like a southern lady. You notice her even more because she is so subtle.

**BT: Put these in order according to the importance in your life: career, friends, food, travel, sex, love and family.**

**Mei:** Love, food, sex, and then travel. The rest are almost the same, but career, for me, surely comes last!

By Gan Tian

Kirt Mei, a Taiwanese man who has been living in Beijing for seven years, has his own philosophy on dining. After opening a cafe in China Central Apartments, he opened another Shanghai-style restaurant within a 10-minute walking distance of it. *Beijing Today* invites Mei to share his new Absolute Cate and his dining experiences in the city.



Absolute Special Xiaolong, 18 yuan for six pieces

Photos provided by Absolute Cate

## Mei's favorite restaurants

### Xiaodongtian

"The Spicy Bullfrog is a must try," Mei said. Since its opening in 1996, hotpot has been the main theme, and comes in just two styles, spicy or light. Try the special ingredients. Xiaodongtian is extremely busy after 10 pm.

Where: 260 Dongzhimen Nei Dajie, Dongcheng District  
Open: 10 am – midnight  
Tel: 8404 9556

### Tongle Restaurant

Tongle Restaurant has been dubbed number one for spicy lobsters in Guijie, which means you get something really spicy here. Mei



Babafan, rice with eight ingredients, 20 yuan

orders a big bowl of Spicy Lobsters every time he goes.

Where: 2 Xintaicang, Dongzhimen Nei Dajie, Dongcheng District  
Open: 10 am – midnight  
Tel: 8402 8623

### Baoqin Dai Dishes

This restaurant serves Yunnan cuisine. Its Pineapple Rice is a must try, with its sweet and sticky flavor and texture. Though a little bit small and crowded, the atmosphere is still good.

Where: Building 16, Minzudaxue Beilu, close to the west gate of The Central University for Nationalities, Haidian District

Open: 10 am – 10 pm  
Tel: 6848 3189

## Absolute Shanghai cuisine in town

Absolute Cate at China Central Place was in its trial phase before the Olympics began, but now it is ready to face the judgment of Shanghai connoisseurs.

The restaurant is on the basement floor of China Central Place, and most of the diners are from nearby offices. The rush hour is always lunch time on weekdays – diners can barely find seats – but on weekends or in the evening it is more relaxed. It might seem like a mistake to try to enjoy Shanghai's delicacies during rush hour anywhere else, but Absolute Cate is able to turn it into a wonderful experience.

White and light-yellow lights are used in the restaurant to encourage an appetite. "To make diners feel like eating, you must use the warm lights," Mei said. He certainly has unique ideas about eating. The seats at first seem crowded, but if you go alone, it is easy to just take one seat. No room is wasted.

Special Xiaolong, 18 yuan for six pieces, is a must try. Few people living in Beijing have tried a true *xiaolongbao*, literally "little basket buns," which are delicate parcels of pork or other fillings encased in a bread dough and steamed in bamboo baskets. Xiaolongbao is the quintessential Shanghai food, Shanghai's answer to Hong Kong's *dim sum*. These little buns were supposedly invented in the village of Nanxiang, now a suburb of Shanghai.

Special Xiaolong requires attention to detail in both the filling and the wrapper. The filling must be firm when cold so that the chef can work with it, yet gelatinous enough to turn tender when steamed. Meanwhile, the wrapper must be thin enough for the bun to be delicate, but thick enough that it does not break apart when picked up with chopsticks. If a chef is able to get these two elements right, you have a xiaolongbao that bursts in your mouth in a succulent explosion.

Absolute Special Green Bean Soup costs 8 yuan, and contains five ingredients: green beans, Coix seeds, lotus seeds, wolfberries and jujubes. Sweet and icy, the dish is served best after dinner. Jue Ruanwei, a frequent patron, orders two every time she goes. "It is good for women, too. For example, I get fewer spots on my face," she said.

Absolute Cate is the place to try affordable, fast Shanghai food.

**Absolute Cate**  
Where: B1, China Central Place, 87 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang District

Open: 10 am – 10 pm  
Tel: 5969 5277, 5969 5278



## Upcoming

## Drama

## Sanxia Stone

Who: Hubei Provincial Opera and Dance Drama Theater  
Where: National Grand Theater Opera Hall  
When: 7:30 pm, October 23-24  
Admission: 50-400 yuan  
Tel: 6655 0000

## 5 Friday, October 17

## Exhibition

## Pierre Huber Creation Prize 2008 Nomination Exhibition

The Pierre Huber Prize was founded in 2007 and named after the prize's Maecenas, who is a famous art collector and broker from Switzerland. The prize is intended to support and popularize experimental art and enterprising spirit, especially in Chinese contemporary art.

Where: T Space, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Until October 26, daily except Monday 10:30 am - 6 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 8456 1529

## Fat Children Ruined My Life - Stella

## Lai Solo Exhibition

Where: F2 Gallery, 319 Caochangdi, Chaoyang

When: Until October 26, daily except Monday and Tuesday 10 am - 6 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 6432 8831

## Live in another landscape - Xu

## Xiaoyan Oil Painting Exhibition

Where: Genssun International Art Space, 4 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Until October 26, 10 am - 6 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 5978 9882



Feng Guicai Solo Exhibition

## Shakespeare comes to town this month

By Zhang Dongya

The 3rd International Theater Season, titled "Shakespeare Forever," opened last weekend to celebrate the 444th anniversary of William Shakespeare's birth.

Eight Shakespearean dramas will be staged at the National Theater, Poly Theater and Peking University Hall. Overseas theatrical troupes, including TNT Theater from Britain and OKT Theater from Lithuania, as well as the domestic National Theater Company and Lin Zhaohua Theater Studio, will perform. Multiple theatrical troupes will perform the same dramas to show the different tastes and understandings of Shakespeare.

The first performance, called *Ming*, named for the ancient Chinese dynasty, was co-produced by director Tian Qinxin and Internet historian writer Dangnian

Mingyue, known for his e-book about the Ming Dynasty. *Ming* is another version of *King Lear*, from Peking University. The festival will also present *Hamlet* from a Kazakh opera troupe and the *Lin Zhaohua Theater Studio*, and *Romeo and Juliet* from Korean and Lithuanian troupes.

Besides the famed tragedies, Shakespeare's comedies such as *Taming of the Shrew* from Britain's TNT and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* from the Tianjin People's Art Theater were recently staged.

Since 2004, the International Theater Season, founded by the National Theater Company of China and China Arts & Entertainment Group, has been held every two years. In years past, the festival also honored the world-renowned dramatists Anton Chekhov and Henrik Ibsen.



West to East

Yan Yineng Solo Exhibition

## 6 Saturday, October 18

## Exhibition

## West to East - The Aesthetic Context of Intellectuals

There are 12 artists in this exhibition, from Xu Beihong and Pan Yuliang to Lin Gang, from Wu Biduan to Xu Bing and Chen Zhen. Through the artwork of these three generations of artists, viewers will discover the origins and developing style of Chinese contemporary art.

Where: SZ Art Center, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Until November 23, daily except Monday 10 am - 6 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 6435 9719

## Out of Love

Where: Soka Art Center, B103 Sky & Sea Business Plaza, 107 Dongsu Bei Dajie, Dongcheng

When: Until October 26, daily 10 am - 9 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 8401 2377, 8401 5810

## Movie

## Between Dog and Wolf

Where: French Culture Center, 1/F, Guangcai International Mansion, 18 Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang

When: 3 pm

Admission: 10-20 yuan

Tel: 6553 2627

## Sanctuary

Workers Stadium), Chaoyang

When: Until November 30, daily noon - 7 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 6551 1632

## Feng Guicai Solo Exhibition

Feng's works feature smooth delineation, fresh coloration, innovative composition and modernity.

Where: New Art Center, 63 Nanchizi Dajie, Dongcheng

When: Until October 25, 9:30 am - 5 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 6528 9103

## Movie

## Night Train

This beautifully shot black humor story follows two misfits who look for tenderness in all the wrong places.

Where: Yugong Yishan, 3 Zhangzizhong Lu, Xicheng

## Stage in November

## Concert

## French Pianist Dana Ciocarlie

## Solo Concert

Who: Dana Ciocarlie

Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng

When: November 23, 7:30 pm

Admission: 30-380 yuan

Tel: 6559 8306

## Concert by the Royal

## Concertgebouw Orchestra

Who: The Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra

Where: National Grand Theater Concert Hall, west side of The Great Hall of the People

When: November 4-5, 7:30 pm

Admission: 280-1,680 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

## China Philharmonic Orchestra

## 2008-2009 Music Festival

Who: Conducted by Xia Xiaotang

Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng

When: November 1, 7:30 pm

Admission: 30-480 yuan

Tel: 6559 8306

## Drama

## Aiba

Who: Directed by Daniel Stewart

Where: Beijing Exhibition Theater, 135 Xizhimen Wai Dajie, Xicheng

When: November 19-23, 7:30 pm

Admission: 80-1,280 yuan

Tel: 6835 4455

## Dance

## Myth and Fable

Who: Martha Graham Dance Company

Where: National Grand Theater Opera Hall, west side of The Great Hall of the People

When: November 27, 7:30 pm

Admission: 100-800 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

## Tibetan Riddle

Who: Yang Liping

Where: Poly Theater, 14 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Chaoyang

When: November 26-30, 7:30 pm

Admission: 80-1,280 yuan

Tel: 6501 1854

This is part of the Nordic Documentary Film Festival, where viewers can discover the most recent developments in documentary filmmaking from the Nordic world.

Where: UCCA, 4 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: 3:30 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 8459 9269

## Nightlife

## Chris Liebing

Where: Tango, 79 Hepin Xi Lu, Dongcheng

When: 10 pm

Admission: 100 yuan

Tel: 6428 2288

## 7 Sunday, October 19

## Exhibition

## Yan Yineng Solo Exhibition

Where: New Age Gallery, 4 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: until October 31, daily except Monday 11:30 - 6:30 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 8459 9282

## Object of Nature - Yang Liu Solo Exhibition

The artist creates an imaginary reality with unique lighting on her paintings.

Where: Beijing Art Now Gallery, 12 Beijing Workers Stadium (at the East Gate of Beijing

Workers Stadium), Chaoyang

When: Until November 30, daily noon - 7 pm

## Feng Guicai Solo Exhibition

Feng's works feature smooth delineation, fresh coloration, innovative composition and modernity.

Where: New Art Center, 63 Nanchizi Dajie, Dongcheng

When: Until October 25, 9:30 am - 5 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 6528 9103

## Movie

## Night Train

This beautifully shot black humor story follows two misfits who look for tenderness in all the wrong places.

Where: Yugong Yishan, 3 Zhangzizhong Lu, Xicheng

When: 8 pm  
Admission: 20-40 yuan  
Tel: 6404 2711

## Nightlife

## Raining Men

Where: The Boat, 8 Liangmahe Nan Lu, Chaoyang

When: 8 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 6460 5512

(By Li Jing)





# Warming up your hands and feet

By Han Manman

**Example 1:** I cannot warm up. Beijing is getting colder and colder, and I need to curl into a ball to warm my hands and feet to get to sleep at night.

**Example 2:** It happens every time I hold a cold can of soda or step into an air-conditioned movie theater. Suddenly, my fingers turn icy, white and numb. And my feet are so sensitive that they feel frozen to the bone after doing the dishes while standing on the kitchen tile. The problem is worst during winter. There are times when I do not feel cold but still have cold hands and feet.

**Example 3:** I am a 27-year-old fit and healthy woman, but almost always have cold hands and feet. During and immediately following exercise, I am warm. That fades over the next hour. I was vegetarian for five years and still follow a near-vegetarian diet, so could I be lacking in vitamins or minerals? My problem is beginning to affect me socially as I have such icy hands that I do not want to touch others. It is also embarrassing to have such cold feet in bed.

Do these examples sound familiar to you?

## A health signal

Professor Lu Yubin, a doctor at Beijing Guoyitang Chinese Medicine Hospital, said that as the season changes and the weather cools, more and more patients come to her with these questions.

"Our feet and hands suffer during cold weather because they are at the extremities of the body. A lot of us have cold hands or feet and just put up with it. For some, it cannot be called a disease, just a signal to stay warm and get more exercise," Liu said, "But for others, it can be a serious problem and can be caused by numerous ailments."

## Causes of cold hands and feet

Conventional medicine suggests cold hands and feet are the result of one or more underlying conditions.

### Anxiety and stress

One of these conditions is an overactive autonomic nervous system. During times of stress, the body conserves its resources by channeling blood away from the extremities and toward vital organs, such as the heart.

Severe anxiety can trigger a variety of mechanisms in the body that disturb normal circulation. If a stressful situation happens, some people's bodies may not take in sufficient oxygen.

### Poor circulation

One cause of cold hands and feet is physical intolerance to cold, often combined with poor circulation. As temperatures outside drop, some people develop a significant aversion to the cold. Instead of feeling chilly and zipping up their jacket, these people are often "freezing" and wear multiple layers, often having a

difficult time staying warm. Symptoms range from decreased blood flow in the extremities to flu-like symptoms. A person may experience fatigue, a runny nose, congestion, a cough or body aches. These symptoms can last all winter, resolving only once warmer weather and sunshine return.

### Raynaud's syndrome

While less common, Raynaud's syndrome is a condition that affects blood vessels in the extremities – generally, the fingers and toes. It is characterized by episodic attacks in which the blood vessels of the digits constrict, usually in response to cold temperatures or emotional stress. People with Raynaud's Syndrome tend to notice color changes in their extremities, and the skin on the fingers and toes may become shiny and tight, with a loss of tissue under the skin.

Raynaud's occurs more often in women.

### Smoking

Smoking cigarettes damages blood vessels and interferes with normal circulation. It is not uncommon for heavy smokers to experience cold hands and feet and more marked reactions to cold weather. Smoking also contributes to the development of atherosclerosis and other circulatory problems.

### Female problems

Liu said females can more easily end up with cold hand and feet than males.

She said the dominance of the female hormone estrogen in women, the quantity and distribution of fat and muscular tissue, and a lower metabolic rate can all lead to feeling cold.

"Women can feel chilly during their periods because of a decrease in iron. During this time they should eat more iron-rich foods," Liu said.

She warned that females who are eager to shed extra pounds may be contributing to the problem. Serious weight loss can cause abnormal menstrual cycles or infertility.

## Ways to warm up

**1** Exercise, especially cardiovascular training, benefits the capillaries and improves circulation. Doctors say the best exercise is swimming.

**2** Massaging the hands and feet immediately after you feel you are getting cold will have a positive effect. Before going to bed, take a warm hand and foot baths, then rub dry with a terry-cloth towel.

**3** Move your arms like a windmill. Swinging your arms briskly in 360-degree circles for a minute or two helps drive blood into the fingers and can relieve vessel spasms.

**4** Cover your head when it's nippy. "You lose up to 55 percent of body heat from your head," Liu said.

**5** Bump up the bedroom temperature. The body's metabolic rate slows during sleep, so it's important to keep your body temperature high. Wearing socks and mittens to bed will add extra warmth on cold nights.

**6** You should also eat balanced meals based on your body's needs. It is essential to consume foods rich in minerals which will strengthen the capillaries and vitamins which maintain the circulatory system.

**7** See a doctor of Chinese medicine. Chinese medicine has numerous solutions that can bring comfort and warmth back into your life.

## Extreme steps

The following method was suggested by netizens to warm your hands and feet quickly. *Beijing Today* cannot be blamed if it turns disastrous.

**Step 1:** Sprinkle Cayenne pepper your socks or down into the fingers of your gloves.

**Step 2:** Put them on! That is it. Your body and the pepper will do the rest.

The reaction of your hands and feet to the pepper generates heat. It is a great way to add a little extra warmth when you know you're going to be exposed to the cold for a little while. Be careful, as cayenne pepper can stain.

CFP Photos



# Sightseeing along the International Marathon

## Mini Marathon

The stretch from the starting point at Tiananmen Square, east of the Chairman Mao Memorial Hall, to the Mini Marathon finish line is a road lined with national cultural and historical buildings.

The National Museum of China is the first site the athletes will pass as they run out of Tiananmen Square. Due to interior reconstruction, all its exhibits have been moved to other halls. Nevertheless, the museum stands as a respected landmark. Its predecessor dates back to 1912, when it was called the National Historical Museum Preparatory Office.

When the athletes turn west onto Chang'an Avenue, they will pass the even older Forbidden City, continue past the Great Hall of the People and the National Center for the Performing Arts (NCPA). German dancers will perform Anna Karenina at the newly constructed theater the same day.

By Zheng Lu

This Sunday is Beijing's annual International Marathon. Though the Olympics ended two months ago, sport carries on. This year's Marathon is focused not only on the race itself, but also on showing the spirit of Beijing. Come as a spectator and cheer on the athletes or race the route at your own pace.

## 10k Marathon

Continuing athletes will pass the first finish line at the Parkson Shopping Mall and turn onto Yuetan Bei Jie where Yuetan Park, site of the Temple of the Moon, is located.

Along Sanlihe Road and Fuchengmen Wai Dajie are more parks. Yuyuantan Park and Songqingling Children's Park are near each other.

Yuyuantan Park is one of the largest parks on the outskirts of the city. Its lake takes up as much as half of the park's interior, and has 20 scenic points worth visiting.

For child spectators, Songqingling Children's park is a better choice since it is near the race route. After waiting to see the athletes pass, parents and children can relax in the park.

The 10-kilometer marathon ends at Shouditiyuguan Nan Lu, near Zizhuyuan Park. With three lakes and two islands, its bamboo thickets are a sight not to be missed. The Beijing Zoo is also nearby, and can be a fun visit after the morning race.

## Half Marathon

After waving good-bye to the 10-kilometer runners, athletes in the Half Marathon and Full Marathon will press on first to Chegongzhuang Xi Lu and then on to Landianchang Nan Lu. Most of this stretch is free of scenery and historical sites.

The road is less winding than last year's route. Wang Dawei, vice president of the Chinese Athletic Association, said this year's route should be a better run for the athletes. Competitors will see beautiful scenery again near the end of the Half Marathon. The Summer Palace will be on their left near the end of the Half Marathon. The park is wonderful in autumn – since the weather and temperature are mild, it is a great time to wander through the ancient royal garden.

Haidian Park marks the end for Half Marathon contestants. It is a good stop if you want to wait for the athletes at the finish.

## Full Marathon

Athletes who will finish the whole route will turn away from Haidian Park to cross Huoqiyang Bridge as the road loops to become Landianchang Lu. Then the road leads to Wanquanhe Lu and after turning left onto Haidian Nan Lu, the racers will continue straight to Zhichun Lu.

As the racetrack turns north onto Xueyuan Lu and then east onto

Kehui Lu and later turns north onto Lincui Lu, the journey offers a view of many famous universities such as Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, China University Of Geosciences and Beijing Language and Culture University.

When the racers run east onto the side road of the North Fifth Ring Road, the Olympic Forest Park will be within reach. There are hills and marshes in the Park, which is cur-

rently open to the public.

On the final stretch, spectators will wait outside the road in front of the Olympic venues to welcome the heroes and heroines and bring back memories of the Games.

But before the finish line at the Olympic Sports Center, Ethnic Culture Park and Tucheng Ancient Ruins Park, built in the 13th century as a wall of the Yuan Dynasty, are both at Minzuyuan Lu.

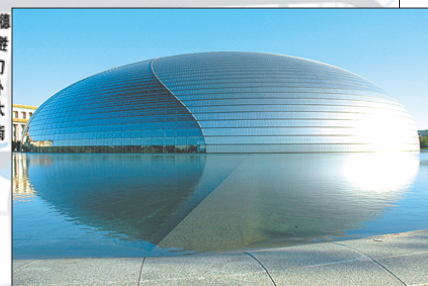


Photo provided by Beijing's International Marathon

CFP Photos



# Terrific sights of the triathlon



Inside of Chongling Tomb

Autumn is a great season for sports and is the right time for many competitions. Aside from the Beijing International Marathon this weekend, there will be many amateur meets at the same time.

The triathlon challenge for outdoor sports fans just finished in Yixian County, Hebei Province, two weeks ago. Yishui Lake, the site of the West Mausoleum of Qing Dynasty, and Wolong Mountain were the three sites of the competition.

## Yishui Lake, film location of Red Cliff

Located in the southwest of Yixian County, Yishui is an artificial lake constructed in the 1950s by using the mountains to surround and lock down the upper reaches of the Yishui River. The water is clear and clean enough to drink without boiling. It was the site of the triathlon's swimming competition and where John Woo filmed several scenes in Red Cliff.

It is nicknamed Little Guilin for its mountains and waters, and most of the scenic sites are related to traditional gods. The depths of Xianren Cave lead to eight smaller caves which have stone tables and chairs. People say it was where the gods trained. The Big Footprints, Xianren Bridge and Dafo Cliff also have many tales.

The mountains split the lake into north and south. Visitors can boat, swim, fish or tour on a yacht. Strangely shaped rocks are visible from the eastern banks. The peak of the mountain looks like a huge gate with large rocks on each side. Locals say it looks like a stone lion guarding the gate. The mountain to the west is Fenghuang Mountain, named for



Red Cliff was filmed beside Yishui Lake.

its phoenix shape.

Angezhuang Village is located on the east bank. Since many of its residents are very old, it is also called "Changshou Village," meaning long life. The villagers usually gather in the square to sing and dance, and many families operate hotels that serve local food.

There are many katydids around the lake in summer. Local villagers live by catching and selling katydids in cages. Many of the katydids sold in the fall throughout China come from Yishui Lake.

### Getting there:

Take a bus from Lizeqiao Bus Station to Yixian County. There are also buses in Yixian to the lake.

## Qingxiling, Qing emperors' tombs

Qingxiling is a nationally protected site. Built in 1780, Qingxiling is an elevated area with forests and hills. It was the site of the triathlon's bicycle competition.

It is one of the two big tombs of the Qing Emperors, and is located at the foot of Yongning Mountain, west of Yixian County. In 1730, Emperor Yongzheng (1678-1735) chose it as the site for his tomb. Qing Emperors started to be buried there and in the East Mausoleum in Zunhua City, Hebei.

In 1730, Yongzheng ordered construction of the Tailing Tomb. The tombs' construction was completed 186 years later when Guangxu's (1871-1908)

Chongling Tomb was completed in 1915. There are four emperor tombs, three empress tombs and seven tombs for princes, wives and brothers of emperors. The site has more than 1,000 palaces and over 100 stone carvings. In 2000, the west and east tombs were added to the list of World Cultural Heritage sites.

The west tombs have the biggest old pine trees. When construction the tombs began, the emperors order people to plant thousands of pine trees all around. There are 15,000 old pine trees in the area.

The west tombs offer a good look into Qing tomb construction. For emperors, empresses and emperors' brothers, the roofs are made of yellow colored glazes; the roofs for princes and lesser wives are in green glaze.

There are paintings and carvings on almost all of the architecture. Dragons and phoenixes are the dominant motif. The whole west tomb complex looks like a park with palaces and green pine trees.

### Getting there:

Take a bus at Lizeqiao Bus Station to Yixian County. There are special buses to the west tombs (Qingxiling) in Yixian.

### Admission:

120 yuan per person (April to the end of October)

80 yuan per person (November to the end of March)

### Wolong Mountain

Wolong Mountain was where the marathon leg of the triathlon took place. It was in the Qing-siling spots area at the north-west side of Tailing, Emperor Yongzheng's tomb, and Changling, Emperor Jiaqing's tomb. A road of sand and earth on the mountain circles it like a dragon ready for flight.

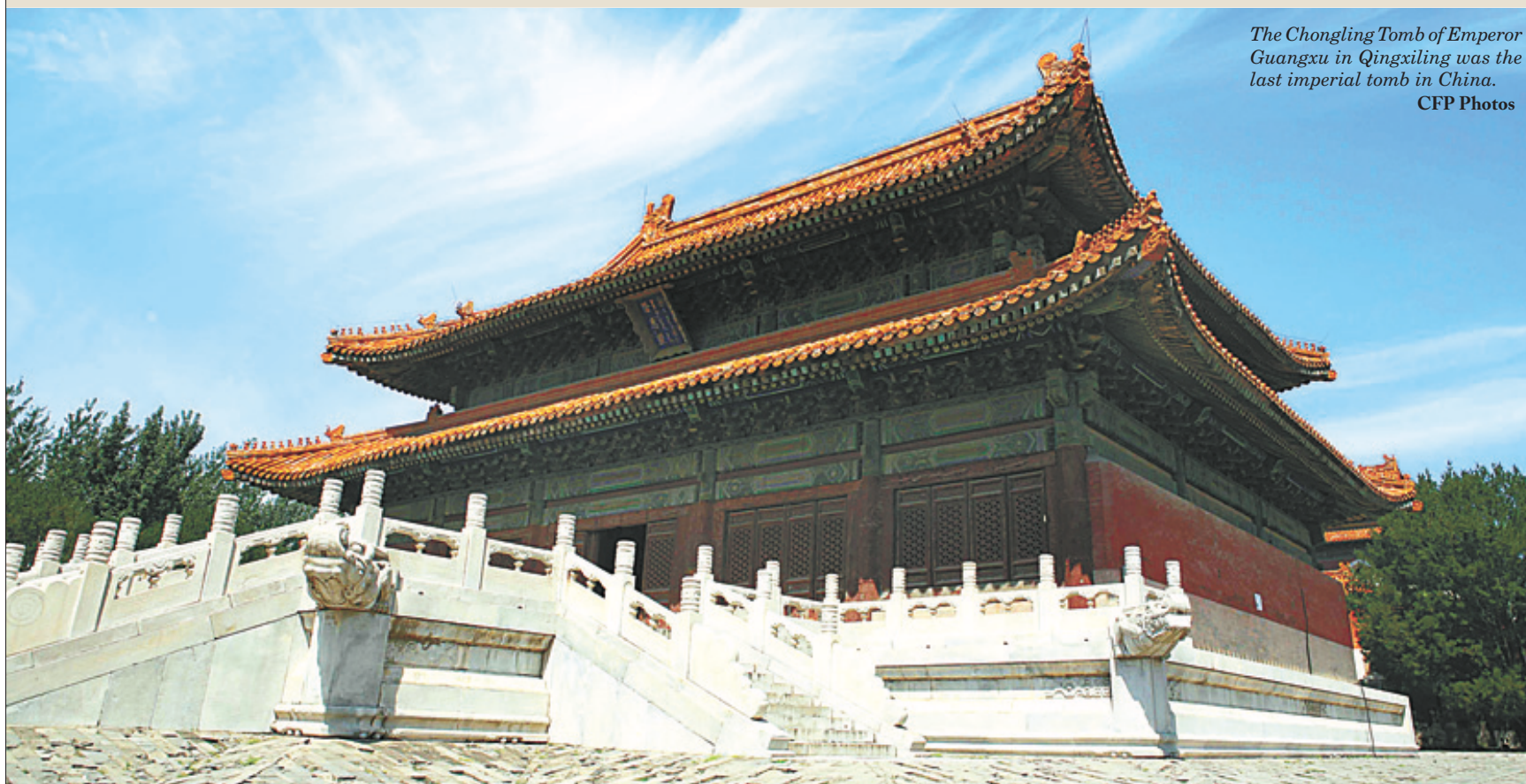
Pine trees cover the whole mountain. In Qing Dynasty, workers transported young pine trees using horses and mules. After transport to the tomb area, they were planted every 6 meters. Workers were assigned to take care for the trees by watering, pruning and catching worms. Soldiers patrolled the mountain to prevent fire or other accidents.

After a tour of the west tombs, you can climb Wolong Mountain for a scenic view.

### Getting there:

After reaching the western Qing tombs (Qingxiling) you can find it northwest of Tailing and Changling.

(By Jackie Zhang)



The Chongling Tomb of Emperor Guangxu in Qingxiling was the last imperial tomb in China.

CFP Photos





Christopher Astolfi is a Corporate Trainer at ClarkMorgan Beijing

# Seeking and Searching: Job Hunt Basics

By Christopher Astolfi

Job searching is something we all face in our lives and it is never easy, no matter if we are first-time job seekers fresh out of school or mid-career workers looking for our next opportunity. When I was last searching for a job I received some excellent advice that I would like to share with you.

A good friend of mine noticed I was struggling with a job I disliked for a few years. He suggested I determine what I like doing and create a job description for my perfect job.

This simple suggestion was harder to complete than I expected. I spent several hours thinking about what I enjoy, and then I made a list of all of the jobs I have had, from part-time jobs during school to professional jobs since leaving university. Next, I listed all the things I liked in each job. I compared these lists and extracted the common elements. I then compared this with a list of things I enjoy. This gave me a start-

ing point.

The next step was to create a job description for my dream job. What would a job I really want include? I was a little surprised by some of the things on my list and how realistic they seemed after some reflection. I included location in this process, preferring to stay in Beijing. This is important as it can help you eliminate jobs and see new possibilities.

Once I had my dream job created, I thought about the next big question, salary. I asked my helpful friend for more advice. He suggested I think about what expenses I have. I made a list and was sure to include money for fun and vacations in addition to the basics. Once I made this list, I had a solid idea how much I really needed to make to be comfortable.

With this description of my dream job, complete with salary requirements, clear in my mind I took the next step and began actually looking at what jobs are out there. I did this through several sources. I started with the largest sources – Internet job boards. These are great places to look for jobs you may want.

When using these job boards, it is important to look not only for jobs

you know you want but also for jobs you will want in the future. Think about where your career is going and plan for the future. As you take jobs now, think about what experience they will give you later.

It is also a good idea to treat each job as a research project. Before you send an application, you should gather as much information about the job and the company as possible. Check the company's Web site. What are they excited about on the Web? What is their mission statement? What are the company values? Have they won any awards? If so, what? What does the award mean? How often is it given and who competed for it? These will provide valuable information and talking points about the company. You should mention these things if possible. Show you know about the company and the industry. Show that you care about the same things they care about.

Search for news articles about the company. This is important for the same reason that the company's Web site is important. It will help you to talk about why you want to work for the company and help show what you can contribute.

## Dining

### The Return of Hairy Crabs

Feast on a splendid selection of hairy crab dumplings, signature hairy crab dishes and hairy crab set menus for authentic Cantonese or Huaiyang style cuisine, and let Chinese wine sommeliers make recommendations for Chinese yellow wine pairings.

Where: Summer Palace, China World Hotel, Beijing, 1 Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang

Tel: 6505 2266 ext 34

### Pink Sunday Brunch

The innovative VIC restaurant brings casual dining to a higher level. The open kitchen concept takes you on a tour of the culinary world, with tastes and styles from Beijing to Paris with stopovers in Tokyo, Bombay, Rome and New York along the way.

Where: Sofitel Wanda Beijing, Tower C, Wanda Plaza, 93 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang  
When: October 19

Tel: 8599 6666 ext 6521

### Under the Sea

Immerse yourself in a seafood buffet fantasy, brimming with all of your fresh favorites. Uncover live abalone, scallops, crabs, shrimp and fish from the ocean depths that have been masterfully prepared by our award-winning chefs right in

front of you.

Where: Senses, the Westin Beijing Financial Street, 9b Jinrong Jie, Xicheng  
When: 5:30-10:30 pm

Tel: 6629 7810

(By Li Jing)

### New Zealand Grass-fed Beef & Lamb

From November to December, the Great Wall Sheraton Hotel will bring grass-fed beef and lamb from New Zealand, known for its prime meats of maximum nutrition and inspiring flavors. Not to be missed are the Herb Infused Lamb Fore Shank at the French Bistro restaurant and the Beef Tenderloin at the Silk Road Trotteria restaurant.

Where: the Great Wall Sheraton Hotel, 10 Dongsanhuan Bei Lu, Chaoyang

Tel: 6590 5566

### Hairy crab feast

As hairy crab season approaches, the Jianguo Hotel will feature its annual delicacy feast of steamed hairy crab from Yangcheng Lake. You can enjoy the tender meat and high nutrition at the special price of 128 yuan per piece and 688 yuan per gift basket.

Where: Shang Court Chinese Restaurant, the Jianguo Hotel Beijing, 5 Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang

Tel: 6500 2233 ext 8041



Oktoberfest 2008



The Return of Hairy crabs

## Carnival

### Enjoy the Golden Autumn Carnival at Pinnacle Plaza

The 6th Golden Autumn Carnival will be held at Pinnacle Plaza, located in the Shunyi Houshayu Villa Zone. Since 2004, this carnival has enhanced international communication and served as a place both for upscale residents and exhibition sponsors alike to meet.

The 6th Golden Autumn Carnival presents upscale real estate and various household products and services, such as banking financial services, international schools, and so on. In addition, it offers a series of entertainment and leisure activities, such as pet shows, Go-kart racing and a beer garden, to enrich the experience.

Where: Pinnacle Plaza, Houshayu, Shunyi  
When: October 18-19, 10 am – 5 pm

(By Sun Feng)

### Oktoberfest 2008

Experience the world renowned German Oktoberfest Festival at Paulaner Bruhaus this October. The Oktoberfest tent will await fans of the festival with "Donautal Duo" & "Gaudi Max" as well as the "Munich Showgirls, Das Kleeblatt."

Where: Kempinski Hotel, 50 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: October 17-26, 6-11 pm  
Tel: 6465 3388 ext 5732

(By Li Jing)

## Aviation

### SriLankan and Etihad Announce New Codeshare Partnership

On October 1, SriLankan Airlines began codesharing with Etihad on flights to Amman, Geneva, Dublin, Munich, Brussels and Manchester. Etihad will do the same on SriLankan's flights to

Male in the Maldives.

Codesharing refers to the arrangement between two airlines by which passengers of one airline can book flights on the other. Passengers then have an increased number of

destinations to which they are able to fly.

For SriLankan Airlines, the codeshares through Abu Dhabi from Geneva, Dublin, Munich, Brussels and Manchester will greatly enhance

European tourists' accessibility to Sri Lanka. They will also serve Sri Lankan expatriates domiciled in Europe. The codeshare to Amman will help serve labor traffic in Jordan, where a large number of Sri

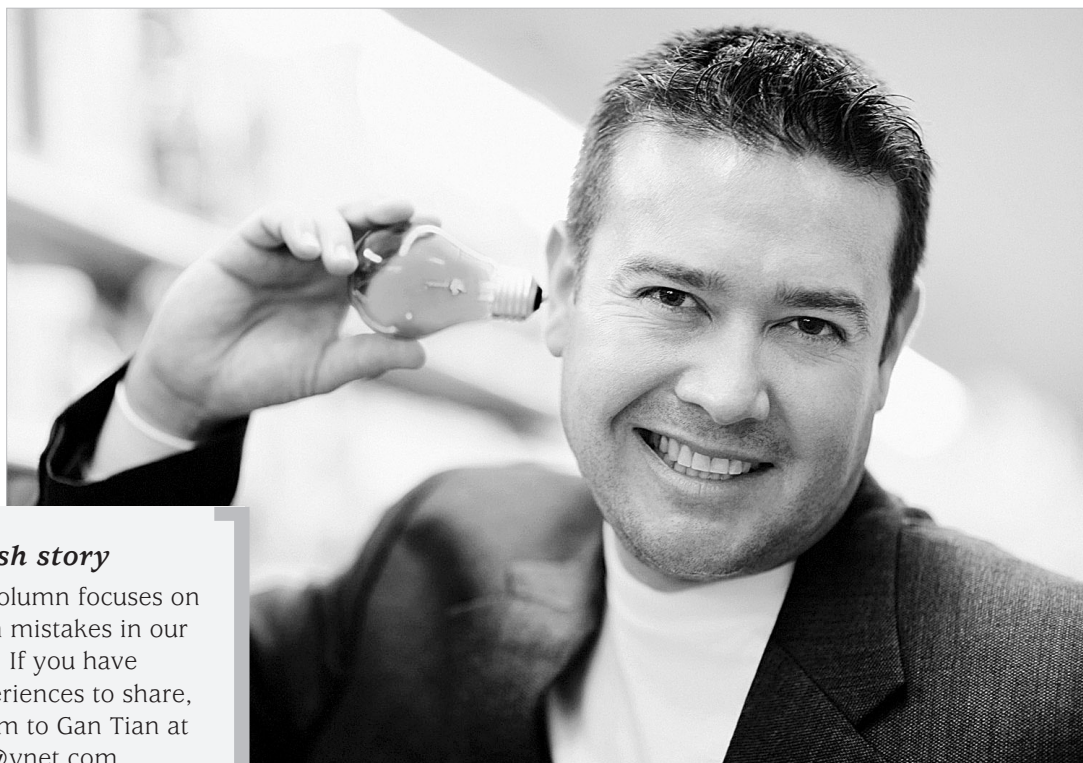
Lankans are employed.

Etihad's codeshare on SriLankan's flights to Male will provide its customers with access to the luxury holiday destination of the Maldives.

(By Li Jing)

If you have any info for this page, please send it to [lixiaojing@ynet.com](mailto:lixiaojing@ynet.com)





CFP Photo

### Chinglish story

This column focuses on Chinglish mistakes in our daily life. If you have any experiences to share, send them to Gan Tian at [gantian@ynet.com](mailto:gantian@ynet.com).

### Chinglish on the way

This column aims to identify Chinglish in public areas. If you see any Chinglish signs, please take a picture and send it to [gantian@ynet.com](mailto:gantian@ynet.com) together with your name and address.

### Who is Ian?

By Taylor Shepherd

"Come and go the vehicle, pay attention to pedest ian." I have to admit, this is not the worst Chinglish sign I've seen. Other than not knowing who Ian is and why he is such a "pedest," this sign more-or-less makes sense. While traffic signs are not, and should not be, poetic masterpieces, this one does manage to get its point across. The only problem is that it is not quite clear who is supposed to pay attention to whom; are cars supposed to watch out for pedestrians, or are pedestrians supposed to watch out for cars?

But in a city as fast-paced and jam-packed as Beijing, with some of the most daring jaywalkers and crazy cab drivers, both interpretations should be heeded and everyone should just watch out for everyone.

Especially Ian.



# Don't be a third wheel

By Wang Yu

It is common knowledge that when hanging out with people, give couples a little distance, because you may make them feel uncomfortable and create a bad reputation for yourself.

When I was in college, my roommate Vincent Zhao used to dine out with his girlfriend off campus all the time. We were high school classmates studying in a university far from home. We both felt lucky to live with a familiar person in a totally unfamiliar southern city.

Zhao's girlfriend was beautiful, with a good body

and great fashion sense. But to be honest, she was a little bit conceited, and would not let anyone be closer to Zhao than she – even a good friend and roommate who had known him for four years.

Sometimes Zhao asked me to go to dinner with them. I'm sure he didn't want to leave me alone, or he may have thought that his girlfriend and I could be friends too. I appreciated the invitations and dined with the couple several times, until I started to notice that the girl seemed upset with me.

I told Zhao it would be better if I did not go out

with them as often, because it seemed to make the girl upset. But one day I heard them quarreling in the hallway, and a few weeks later they broke up. Zhao said he could not put up with her selfishness, and said that she even checked his cell phone messages. Though he did not mention me, I still took it as a lesson to keep a distance from jealous lovers.

Last week, Chris, another friend of mine who is from America, asked me to go and watch a movie at Xidan with him and his girlfriend. "You two go on ahead without me," I said. "I don't want to be an

electric bulb."

"To be what?" He asked "What do you mean?"

"I don't want to be sitting between you guys, I mean ... to be a dian deng pao." I knew Chris was familiar with some Chinese idioms.

"I got it, you mean 'third wheel.' That's the phrase we use in English to refer to a person who is the outsider when there is a group of three. But I don't think you are a third wheel," Chris said.

Maybe I was and maybe I was not, but I still declined Chris' invitation with thanks that day, and went to McDonald's for dinner alone.

### Blacklist

Beijing Today has come up with Blacklist, a new column of words or phrases commonly misused by Chinese speakers. If you're planning to be an English teacher, reporter or employee of a multinational company, then this page is your new best friend. Watch it for each week.

## Native Speaker: Taylor Shepherd

### 1. G8 stopped short of pledging immediate action instead of words

As a native English speaker, I understand this sentence differently. "Instead of words" is not describing how much the G8 talked, but rather is contrasting "words" with "pledging immediate action." I presume that the writer wishes to say that after some discussion about an issue or problem, the G8 did not pledge any immediate, solid, tangible action, and instead issued statements, speeches, or words.

### 2. Its' business strategy

I agree with the Professor. It's is a contraction meaning "it is," and its is a possessive pronoun meaning "belonging to." The word its' does not exist.

### 3. Survival and survivor

Survival is the act of surviving, for example, "The survival of ancient Chinese culture is very important." Survival can be used when talking about individual people, a group of things or an abstract concept. Survivor refers to a person or thing that has survived or is surviving. "John is a survivor of cancer."

### 1. G8 stopped short of pledging immediate action instead of words

As a Chinese I can perfectly guess what this writer wishes to say. However, his ideas are twisted. He wishes to say: The G8 failed to pledge any immediate action though they talked much about it in words. The problem with the sentence is the phrase "instead of." The object of the phrase "instead of" has to be parallel in grammatical function with its contrasted precedent. For instance, He comes to humiliate her instead of rendering a helping

## Local professor: Zhu Shida

hand. Do you see the contrast in sense between the two acts? With this sentence, it is better to say: The G8 stopped short of pledging immediate actions though they had been much profuse in words.

### 2. Its' business strategy

It is a business strategy, or Its business strategy when "its" as a possessive pronoun. You never say Its' business strategy. I find such a mistake many a time. Remember "it's" is the abbreviation of "it is" with the apostrophe "s" while "its," the possessive pronoun, is one word by itself.

### 3. Survival and survivor

Though both are nouns, students should not be confused with their different usage. Survival means the act or fact of surviving; continuance of life; living or lasting longer than others. For instance, no small number of what the English stigmatize as Americanisms are survivals from former good usage. Survivor means a person, animal or plant that remains alive; things that continue to exist. For instance, He is the only survivor of a family of nine from the earthquake.



## Movie of the week

The novel *Charlotte's Web* was first adapted into a musical cartoon in 1973 and enjoyed immense popularity with families. But since then, it seems that the story has disappeared into the recesses of Hollywood. It was not until more than thirty years later *Charlotte's Web* returned and is played by real people and animals. The voice cast, which includes Julia Roberts and Oprah Winfrey, adds to its attraction.

## Synopsis

The sow of the young girl Fern gives birth to many baby piglets, but one of them is rather weak and small. When Fern's father tries to kill the piglet, Fern saves him and names him Wilbur. Wilbur lives in the barn next door with many other livestock. As time passes, Wilbur grows up and hears the bad news that the farmer is planning to make him the main course for Christmas. His friend Charlotte, a spider, then begins a rescue operation in a race against time.



## Scene 1

(After a sound sleep, Wilbur cannot wait to know who talked to him the night before)

**Wilbur (W):** Would whoever addressed me last night kindly make yourself known?

**Sheep:** What luck<sup>(1)</sup>! An early riser and he has things he needs to say.

**Horse:** Yeah, loud things.

**W:** I'm speaking to whoever spoke to me last night.

**Charlotte (C):** I suppose that would be me.

**W:** Okay. I can't see you.

**C:** Up here, in the corner, the other corner.

**W:** I'm sorry. I still can't see you.

**C:** Move a little closer. I'll come down.

**W:** Hi. You're a ...

**Horse:** Look, I've got a long day ahead of me and I'm trying to get a little ... Spider! Spider! Get it away from me! Get it away! Get it away!

**Sheep:** All right, keep your distance there.

**Gander:** That thing is creepy<sup>(2)</sup>.

**Goose:** Golly! You're not being rude, are you?

**Gander:** No, no, no. I meant "creepy" in a nice way. You know, creepy good.

**Goose:** Disgusting!

**Gander:** They eat their menfolk<sup>(3)</sup>, you know.

**Goose:** I know!

**C:** Well? Still want to chat, or are you gonna join them?

**W:** I've never met a spider before. Did you make that? Is that what you were concentrating on last night?

**C:** Yes.

**W:** It's amazing. Think you could teach me how to make one of those?

**C:** Hold that thought<sup>(4)</sup>, please.

**W:** What are you doing?

**C:** Making breakfast.

**W:** Oh, boy.

**C:** Relax. First, I give him a little nip to anesthetize<sup>(5)</sup> him, so he'll be more comfortable. It is a little service I throw in<sup>(6)</sup>. Then I wrap him up. Then I just say grace because, well, that's always nice, and he'll make a perfectly delicious meal.



## Scene 2

(Fern's mother is upset that Fern goes to the barn every day, and goes to the doctor)

**Fern's mother (M):** Dr. Dorian, it is ridiculous, isn't it? To think that animals can actually talk?

**Dorian (D):** I don't know. Maybe an animal said something to me and I didn't hear it because I wasn't paying attention. Maybe children are just better listeners than we are.

**M:** Well, it worries me to no end<sup>(7)</sup>.

**D:** What's got you worried is that her only friends are pigs, sheep, geese and rats.

**M:** Well, not rats.

**D:** No. Does she look well?

# Charlotte's Web

## (2006)



1. What luck!: How great!
2. Creepy: causing a sensation as of things crawling on your skin.
3. Menfolk: The male members of a community or family.
4. Hold that thought: In this context it means hold on.
5. Anesthetize: to make people or animals unconscious by means of anesthetic drugs.
6. Throw in: to add (an extra thing or amount) with no additional charge.

7. To no end: endlessly.
8. Right as rain: perfectly all right.
9. Stand a chance: to have a chance of success.
10. A heck of a job: an extraordinary work.
11. Steal the show: to get all the attention and praise at an event or performance.
12. A token of: a symbol of something.
13. A whole lot: a good deal.
14. Way to go: well done.

(By Zheng Lu)



**M:** Yes.

**D:** Appetite's good? Does she sleep well at night?

**M:** Yes. I mean, she's right as rain<sup>(8)</sup> in that way.

**D:** Well, there is a name for her condition. It's called a childhood phase. And, sadly, it's something she'll grow out of.

## Scene 3

(While the farmer Homer Zuckerman plans to kill Wilbur, Charlotte's web changes his mind)

**Zuckerman (Z):** Welcome to Zuckerman's! Thank you all for coming. Well, the web says it better than I ever could. That is some terrific, radiant pig! And for that reason, I've decided to enter Wilbur into the county fair.

**Wilbur (W):** Did you hear what they said, Charlotte? I'm going to the fair!

**Gander:** Going to the fair!

**Cow:** Wilbur might just see Christmas after all.

**W:** Is it good? Did we do it?

**Charlotte (C):** Yes, Wilbur. It's very good. Now, smile.

**Fern's mother (M):** The fair, Homer? What's coming into you?

**Z:** I don't know, Sis. It just comes to me.

**M:** He's a runt, Homer. He doesn't stand a chance<sup>(9)</sup>.

**Sheep:** Well done! Never had a doubt!

**Horse:** That spider did a heck of a job<sup>(10)</sup>. She's a hard worker.

**W:** Thank you, Charlotte. You should take a little bow.

**C:** And have my beauty steal the show<sup>(11)</sup>? Now, go on and show them what a radiant pig can do.

## Scene 4

(At the fair, Charlotte makes her last web for Wilbur that attracts people to come)



**Referee (R):** Folks! Folks! I think we all remember the start of summer, when the writing appeared on the web in Mr. Zuckerman's barn. And now it has happened yet again, which is why the governors of the fair are honored to present this handsome medal, a token of<sup>(12)</sup> our amazement and our appreciation.

**Fern:** I love you, Wilbur.

**Zuckerman:** Well, what can I say about this pig that hasn't already been said? I know a lot of you folks have come out to the farm, and you've seen the words. A lot of you have asked me, "How could this have happened?" I don't know. But it has happened in a time when we really don't see many miraculous things. Or maybe we do. Maybe they're all right there around us, every day, and we just don't know where to look. There's no denying that our own little Wilbur, he's part of something that's bigger than all of us. And life on that farm is just a whole lot<sup>(13)</sup> better with him in it. He really is some pig.

**R:** Way to go<sup>(14)</sup>, Wilbur!